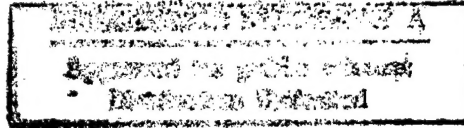


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21 October 1982

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

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ARMED FORCES

LECTURE ON DEFENSE OF PEACE, SOCIALISM

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) pp 22-24

[Article by Capt 1st Rank V. Sivogorakov, candidate of philosophical sciences:
"Implement the Congress' Decisions"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in
boldface]

[Text] Events of recent years convincingly show the influential and noble role which the activity of the Warsaw Pact Organization plays in European as well as in international affairs as a whole. The military-political defensive alliance of socialist countries loyally serves peace, said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. It has everything necessary to reliably defend the socialist achievements of the peoples. "And we will do everything necessary so that this will also be the case in the future!" stressed Leonid Il'ich from the rostrum of the 26th CPSU Congress.

The next subject for political training is /"The 26th CPSU Congress on the necessity for further strengthening of the military-political alliance of the fraternal socialist countries and the combat collaboration of their armies."/ Its study will help the warrant officers [praporshchik and michman] to understand more deeply the class essence and necessity for the international defense of the achievements of socialism and the combat alliance of fraternal armies and to have a better realization of their role in patriotic and international indoctrination of the men.

Six hours are allotted for the study of the subject: two hours for a lecture and four hours for a seminar. It is expedient to examine the following questions in the lecture:

- /1. Lenin ideas on the international nature of the defense of socialism's achievements.
2. The Warsaw Pact--the military-political defensive alliance of the countries of the socialist commonwealth.
3. The basic directions, forms, and methods for strengthening the combat alliance of the fraternal armies./
1. /V. I. Lenin taught/ that the armed defense of socialism's achievements is the international duty of the international proletariat.

Even prior to the victory of the Great October, the leader of the party substantiated the necessity to defend the revolution's achievements and he pointed to the international nature of wars which are directed toward the suppression of counterrevolution and the repulse of the aggression of the imperialist powers. In the work "The Tasks of the Revolution," V. I. Lenin predicted that in case of the victory of Soviet power and the refusal on the part of the capitalists of the warring states to conclude peace, "the war on our part is made valid...just, and defensive...it will not be a war of words but of deeds, a war in alliance with the oppressed classes of all countries, a war in alliance with the oppressed peoples of the entire world."

The historical credit for the deep and comprehensive development of the most important theoretical propositions which scientifically substantiate the vital necessity for the close international solidarity of the peoples who have embarked on revolutionary socialist transformations belongs to V. I. Lenin.

Speaking in August 1918 before the Warsaw Revolutionary Regiment, Vladimir Il'ich said: "Now being accomplished is the alliance of revolutionaries of various nations about which the best people dreamed, a genuine alliance of workers and not of intellectual dreamers. The overcoming of national enmity and distrust is the guarantee of victory." In turning to the men, he said that it has befallen their great honor to defend holy ideas with weapon in hand and to accomplish the international brotherhood of peoples in fact, and he expressed the hope that if the internationalist fighters unite military forces into a mighty international army and move these iron battalions against the exploiters, tyrants, and against the Black Hundred of the entire world, then no force of the imperialists will stand up against them.

In the difficult years of the Civil War, V. I. Lenin explained that "in struggling for a socialist system in Russia, we are struggling for socialism for the entire world." In noting the international character of the struggle of the workers and peasants on the fronts of the Civil War, he pointed out: "We are fighting not only against Russian capitalism. We are struggling against capitalism of all countries, against worldwide capitalism...." In the "Letter to the Workers and Peasants of the Ukraine on the Occasion of the Victories over Deniken," Vladimir Il'ich summoned the workers of various nations to the closest alliance since "capital is an international force" and "in order to defeat it the international alliance of the workers and their international brotherhood is needed." The workers, stressed the proletarian leader, "surely need a close military and economic alliance," otherwise the capitalists of England, France, the United States, Japan, and Italy "will crush and strangle us one by one." And he constantly recalled that the interests of socialism, the interests of world socialism, are higher than national interests, higher than the interests of the state.

The workers of the capitalist countries stepped forth in the defense of the Soviet state. They frustrated the dispatch of soldiers and armaments for the interventionists and demanded the withdrawal of occupation troops. In a number of other countries a powerful movement was initiated under the slogan, "Hands off the Soviet Union!" It is also necessary to note such a form of support as participation in the struggle on the fronts of the Civil War. At different times, about 250,000 internationalists joined the Red Army.

A significant role in the development of proletarian internationalism was played by the working class of Russia which took power into its hands. Despite the grave

situation in its country in connection with the Civil War, it rendered active material, moral, and in some cases military support to the struggling proletariat. Our country rendered comprehensive assistance to the Spanish people in their struggle against fascism and to the Chinese and Mongolian people against Japanese aggression.

The international role of the Soviet Union was manifested with special force in the years of World War II. Its Armed Forces inflicted a crushing defeat on Hitlerite Germany and its satellites, defended the freedom and independence of the socialist fatherland, accomplished a great liberation mission, and justified the hopes of progressive mankind.

The creation of the world socialist system and its grandiose successes show graphically the tremendous significance of the Soviet people's great international exploit, the USSR's liberation mission in World War II, and the comprehensive, unselfish fraternal assistance for the socialist countries by our state. "Experience convinces us," it says in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics," "that loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and the close cooperation of the fraternal parties in all fields permit the correct combination of common and national interests of the socialist states, the successful resolution of contradictions and difficulties which arise in the course of development, and the confident advancement forward by each country and the entire socialist commonwealth. The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the Warsaw Pact Organization serve this reliably."

2. /The Warsaw Pact Organization/ which was created on 14 May 1955 is the first alliance of the fraternal peoples and their armed forces in the history of international relations. Its emergence was connected with the aggressive actions of imperialism and the aggravation of the international situation. At the time when the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted the Law on the Defense of Peace in 1951 and declared the propagandizing of war to be a most serious crime against mankind, the reactionary forces of imperialism and, first of all the United States, revived the fascist myth "of a Soviet military threat" and began the preparation of war against the Soviet Union. Created in a short time were the North Atlantic bloc--NATO (1949), SEATO (1954), the so-called Baghdad Pact (1955), and others. The cold war began.

As has now become known, at that time the United States had specific plans for military operations against our country. Thus, the plan "Trojan" envisioned the start of a war against the USSR on 1 January 1950. It was planned to rain about 300 atomic and 20,000 tons of conventional bombs down on Soviet cities. According to the plan "Dropshot," it was planned to drop more than 300 atomic bombs and 250,000 tons of conventional bombs on the Soviet Union and to begin combat operations on 1 January 1957. The mission to destroy the socialist achievements of the Soviet people and the peoples of the socialist countries was advanced to the fore. The total strength of the armed forces for the realization of this goal was 20 million men.

However, these as well as other plans were not fated to come true. The correlation of forces in the world changed more and more in favor of socialism. The economic and military might of the Soviet Union grew, the world socialist system was strengthened, and the national-liberation movement expanded. Military collaboration between

the fraternal countries entered a new stage after the signing of the Warsaw Pact of friendship, collaboration, and mutual assistance. The socialist states of Europe countered the aggressive aspirations of imperialist reaction with their own combined power. And the NATO military circles lost confidence in their capability to defeat the Soviet Union: by the end of the 1950's the Soviet Armed Forces were already equipped with intercontinental ballistic missiles. By this time, our army also had nuclear weapons, strategic bombers, and nuclear submarines.

According to its content and goals the Warsaw Pact is a political and military alliance. Its rests on a firm socio-political, economic, and ideological basis: a state and social system of a single type, the socialist method of production, and Marxist-Leninist ideology including the Lenin principle of proletarian internationalism. The goals of this organization can be related in the words of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev: "We created this commonwealth first of all to oppose the threat of imperialism and the aggressive military blocs which it created and to defend the cause of socialism and peace by common efforts." The countries which make up the Warsaw Pact assumed the obligation, in conformance with the UN Charter, to refrain from the threat of force or its employment in its international relations and to resolve its international quarrels by peaceful means. And the 27-year history of the Warsaw Pact confirms convincingly that the countries of the socialist commonwealth are the most consistent and resolute champions of peaceful collaboration and the security of peoples, while in the postwar years imperialism unleashed dozens of local wars, in which regard the United States entered many of them as the main aggressor or active accomplice. The fraternal socialist countries threaten no one, do not claim foreign territories, and do not interfere in the internal affairs of other states. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev pointed out that the combined military might of the fraternal socialist countries serves not the goals of attacking anyone, but the goals of defending the peaceful labor of our peoples. But for this, said Leonid Il'ich, we together with our allies "must create such defensive might that the leaders of the bourgeois states understand that they cannot speak to us in the language of threat, that they must speak with us, as they say, as equals, in a language of reason, realism, and mutual advantage."

Being guided by the Lenin principle of proletarian internationalism, the CPSU and the other communist and worker parties of the fraternal socialist countries rendered and are rendering comprehensive assistance to one another as well as to the peoples who are struggling against imperialist aggression. Thus, the Soviet Union supported the Hungarian people in suppressing a counterrevolutionary uprising in 1956 and prevented United States aggression against Cuba in 1962. And when, in 1961, danger hung over the German Democratic Republic on the part of the United States and the FRG, the countries of the Warsaw Pact adopted all necessary measures for the defense of the GDR, and the aggressors retreated. Nor will the assistance of the socialist commonwealth to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in 1968 be forgotten when fraternal troops helped its peoples to defend the achievements of socialism from the intrigues of counterrevolutionary forces which entered into a deal with militaristic circles of the West. The Soviet Union and other socialist states rendered great assistance to Vietnam in its just struggle against American imperialism and Chinese hegemonism as well as to the people of Laos, Kampuchea, Angola, Mozambique, Afghanistan, and many other countries in their national-liberation struggle.

When the West tried to tear Poland from the socialist commonwealth and a threat to the foundations of the social system arose in the Polish People's Republic itself, the meeting of leading figures of Warsaw Pact member states became important political support for it. In connection with these events, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said as follows at the 26th CPSU Congress: "The Polish communists, Polish working class, and the workers of this country can firmly count on their friends and allies; we will not abandon socialist Poland, fraternal Poland in trouble and we will be able to stand up for ourselves!... And let no one doubt our common resolve to ensure our interests and defend the socialist achievements of the peoples!"

In its content and goals, the Warsaw Pact differs radically from all coalitions and military-political imperialist blocs which have existed and exist. The very basis of its close collaboration is the indestructible alliance of the communist parties of the fraternal socialist countries--that directing and organizing force which created and tirelessly strengthens this defensive organization on the firm foundation of the Lenin principles of socialist internationalism. The most important of them is class proletarian solidarity, the equality and equality of rights of all participants in the combat alliance, the unity of patriotism and internationalism, the correct combination of national and international interests in the defense of socialism, respect for the independence and sovereignty of the fraternal countries, and non-interference in their internal affairs. This political and military organization is the actual embodiment of the Lenin ideas on peace and the security of the socialist commonwealth.

At the 26th CPSU Congress it was noted that the past period again showed the tremendous role which the activity of the Warsaw Pact Organization and, first of all, its Political Consultative Committee, plays in international life.

The communist and worker parties of the fraternal countries are sacredly implementing the behests of V. I. Lenin. "In standing against the tremendous front of the imperialist powers," he pointed out, "we, fighting against imperialism, are an alliance which requires close military solidarity, and we consider any attempts to destroy this solidarity as a completely impermissible phenomenon, as treason to the interests of the struggle against international imperialism." The states which are joined in the Warsaw Pact are maintaining the military-strategic balance in the world arena which restrains the aggressive aspirations of the United States and its NATO allies. The words of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev were heard in the entire world: "Let no one expect that socialism will not defend itself. It will. And with all resoluteness."

3. /The development of national armies/and the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states is occurring in an inseparable connection with the building of socialism and communism in the fraternal countries. The tremendous scope and scale of the creative successes and the use of the achievements of scientific and technical progress permit equipping them with the latest models of weapons and combat equipment.

The implementation of the Lenin principles for military organizational development and the constant concern of the communist and worker parties for the defense of the socialist achievements led to qualitative changes in the Combined Armed Forces. Their defensive potential and the ability of the troops and fleets to accomplish effectively the most difficult missions in repelling any aggression under various conditions and situations with the employment of all contemporary means of armed conflict

have increased significantly. The necessity for the further strengthening of the Warsaw Pact's might is dictated by the very international situation. Now, as was noted at the 26th CPSU Congress, the aggressive nature of imperialism's policy and, first of all American, has increased sharply. The threat of thermonuclear war has grown.

Under these conditions, said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at a ceremonial session in Tashkent, the economic and defensive might of the Soviet Union and its socialist allies, their tenacity and self-control, and their consistent peace-loving policy appear before all peoples with special clarity as the main obstacle in the path of the igniters of war and the main support of peace on Earth. The collaboration of the Soviet Armed Forces with the armies of the fraternal socialist states, said the Soviet Minister of Defense Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov at the 6th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations, is imbued with the spirit of internationalism and is based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and sovereignty and includes ever closer coordination of plans for the development of the armed forces of the allied countries, the consistent conduct of a single military-technical policy and coordinated operational and other measures, and the exchange of experience in the training and indoctrination of the men.

Just what are the basic directions, forms, and methods of this collaboration? First of all, it is the coordination of the efforts of the allied countries in questions of strengthening defense, the organizational development and progress of national armies, and raising their combat might and combat readiness; military-technical and military-scientific collaboration; and joint measures and the exchange of experience in operational, combat, and political training, the working out and introduction of advanced methods for the instruction and indoctrination of the personnel into practice, and the development of common views on the nature and methods for the conduct of combat operations.

An important role in this regard is played by the coordinated activity of the Committee of Defense Ministers, the Military Council, Staff, Technical Committee, and other organs of the Combined Warsaw Pact Armed Forces.

One of the basic directions of the military collaboration of the allied armies is the conduct of joint exercises on various scales. Questions of coordination are worked out on them, the training of commanders and staffs, troops, and naval forces is improved, the field, aerial, and naval ability of the personnel is checked, and more effective methods for the conduct of combat operations are investigated. On the joint exercises "Brotherhood in Arms-80," "Alliance-81," "Friendship-82," and others which took place in recent years, the men of the fraternal armies demonstrated high skill and the ability to use contemporary equipment and weapons skillfully.

The strengthening of the combat cooperation of the fraternal armies is furthered by the ideological collaboration between them. Contacts of political organs and political officers have become a firm part of daily practice in mutual relations. The exchange of experience in party-political work which is directed toward instilling in the men of the allied armies socialist internationalism and patriotism, class hatred for imperialism, and high revolutionary vigilance is expanding from year to year.

Another important form of collaboration of the socialist countries is active mutual assistance in the training of military personnel; the Soviet Armed Forces are making a significant contribution here. Army ties in the fields of science, art, the press, and sport are becoming more and more varied.

In order to augment this experience, it is necessary to generate in the men the ability to approach any national problems from class positions, and tirelessly to strengthen the unity and solidarity of the combat alliance of the socialist armies. Warrant officers [preporshchik and michman] who are performing service beyond the borders of the motherland can and should make their contribution in this regard. In daily contacts with workers of the socialist countries and the personnel of the fraternal armed forces with whom they are tying firm bonds of friendship and combat collaboration, they step forth as ambassador plenipotentiaries of our state. The performance of their international duty in fact means first of all a high state of discipline and conscientious soldierly labor in the name of the common goal, the comprehensive raising of the effectiveness and quality of combat training, and active participation in political-indoctrinational work with subordinates.

In the propagandizing of the Lenin ideas on the international nature of the defense of socialism's achievements, the broadest application can be found by such tested forms of ideological work as thematic soirees, question and answer soirees, and talks on present-day problems of CPSU national policy. However, warrant officers should consider that the instilling of patriotism and internationalism in the troop collectives is not reduced to the mastery of some theoretical provisions alone. It should be closely tied to the practical affairs of the soldiers and seamen. All political-indoctrinational work should be impregnated with international indoctrination. The Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, noted that the international indoctrination of the Armed Forces is considered as "one of the main component parts of the moral-political training of the men and an important means for molding the combat qualities necessary for the defender of the socialist fatherland."

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ARMED FORCES

RED TAPE HINDERS PROMOTION IN OCCUPATIONAL AREAS

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) p 30

[Article: "What Hinders the Raising of Proficiency Ratings"]

[Text] As the editor's mail shows, the readers responded fervently to the call of a group of warrant officers [praporshchik] to master the qualification of master (ZNAMENOSSETS No 1, 1982). The warrant officers [praporshchik and michman] share experience and raise a number of questions connected with the passing of tests and the awarding of the title of "master." For example, Warrant Officer [praporshchik] R. Shaymukhametov writes that he passed the tests to receive the qualification of "master," but the extract from the order has not been sent from higher headquarters to the unit where he serves for more than a year. Colonel G. Karabanov informed the editors that the lawful rights of Warrant Officer Shaymukhametov have been restored, and the one guilty of red tape has received disciplinary punishment.

Warrant Officer V. Pan'kin has his own concern: a year has passed since he passed the tests to raise his proficiency rating and nothing is known of the results. For a long time, there was no answer from the unit to the editors' inquiry. Only after repeated reminders did officer G. Gogolev report that during the compilation of the summary list of those who passed the tests for proficiency rating for approval by the senior commander the name of Warrant Officer Pan'kin was omitted. With this, Comrade Gogolev considered his mission concluded, and said not a word about any measures which were adopted to correct the error, satisfy the valid request of the subordinate, and reward his striving to raise his combat skill. Such a position can be called nothing but indifference and nonchalance toward the person and, really, toward the matter.

It is known that moral as well as material incentives have been established to encourage rated specialists. Those who have passed the tests for proficiency ratings successfully are awarded certificates and badges in a ceremonial situation. It is also assumed that the men who have a second-class rating or higher will be paid the appropriate monetary reward. But in practice, unfortunately, this provision is not always observed. Warrant Officer [michman] S. Ikka, in particular, complained to the editors that due to errors made in drawing up the documents, they stopped paying him the reward for proficiency rating and he cannot resolve this problem at his place of service. Rear Admiral V. Luk'yanov reported that Warrant Officer Ikka is correct in his claims and that payment of the reward to him has been renewed. The unjustified delay occurred through the fault of the unit chief of finance service, Warrant Officer S. Sukhorukov, who received a strict warning.

The lofty title of master obliges the serviceman for much. And first of all, he must constantly maintain his knowledge at the necessary level and sharpen his practical skills so as to master his military specialty to perfection. And for this, the rating qualification should be confirmed regularly in the prescribed manner once a year. However, letters reaching the editors indicate that some warrant officers forget about this mandatory requirement. For example, Warrant Officer [praporshchik] A. Degtyarev complained that his rated qualification was reduced and he requested an investigation of the reasons. As was learned, last year, in confirming the rated qualification of master Warrant Officer Degtyarev demonstrated weak technical knowledge and his qualification was reduced to first class. Now he has successfully passed the tests and, by order of the senior commander, he has again been awarded the highest rated qualification.

Of course, a rated specialist, especially a master, is an irreproachably disciplined serviceman. This, evidently, was not considered by Warrant Officer Rakhminov who sent a complaint to the editors. It was answered by Major General of Aviation N. Kryukov. It turned out that Rakhminov had received strict disciplinary punishment and he was lawfully refused the right to participate in passing tests to confirm his rated specialty. The commander who awarded a serviceman the corresponding rated qualification also has the right to deprive him of this qualification for serious omissions in service and for coarse violations of military discipline.

The rated qualification is an indicator of military skill and each warrant officer must strive for its attainment and participate actively in the competition for high successes in combat training and service. A clear system for awarding and confirming a rated qualification is operating in the Armed Forces, and all commanders and chiefs are also called upon to help servicemen to master the heights of combat skill. This is a common cause.

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AIR FORCE

FIGHTERS: DISCUSSION ON TACTICAL VALUE OF PAIR VS SINGLE AIRCRAFT CONTINUES

Moscow AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA in Russian No 4, Apr 82 (signed to press 3 Mar 82) pp 9-10

[Article by Col D. Goldyrev, candidate of military sciences: "Discussing the Article 'Pair or Single?': The Future is With the Pair"]

[Text] Col V. Belyayev's article entitled "Pair or Single?" (AVIATSIYA I KOSMONAVTIKA, No 11, 1981) provides food for thought. For me, for example, this question was unexpected and rather bold. The author was not afraid to "encroach" on the concept of the pair as the fire and tactical unit of fighters which had become firmly entrenched over 40 years. The fact is that the pair went victoriously through the crucible of the Great Patriotic War and invariably makes up the basis of combat formations at the present time as well. It was used in air forces of capitalist countries in a number of local conflicts unleashed by imperialism.

On the basis of an analysis of changes in equipment, tactics and views on the tactical employment of fighters, Col Belyayev convincingly shows the reasons which led to the transition from a flight of three aircraft to a pair. He cites arguments in favor of considering the single fighter as the fire and tactical unit in the future. It is true that he does not preclude operations of a pair depending on conditions which will be dictated by the combat situation. Nevertheless I would like to argue with him.

As an established concept of a fire unit, the pair is a principle stemming objectively from the demands of tactics and assuming above all the presence of stable, substantial and quite repetitious ties of effect. That means if there are or may be cases where fighters operate or will operate as a single crew, this is more the exception than the rule. Therefore, as it seems to me, there is every basis to hope that the pair will continue to stand its ground firmly as a fire and tactical unit. It has a promising future. I will try to substantiate my optimistic conclusion in favor of the pair with appropriate arguments and confirm it with examples, although in so doing it inevitably will be necessary to resort to contrapositions to those arguments which the author of the article uses.

Col Belyayev is correct in stating that up to the present time "the advantages of the pair have exceeded its deficiencies substantially." But his further reflections that with the change in tactical capabilities of contemporary

fighters there must be a critical assessment of the pair as a fire and tactical unit seem unconvincing. He apparently is relying on secondary or rather external signs and points. To reject the old and affirm the new it is not only important to have a detailed analysis of the past, but also a clear idea and forecasting of those principles in fighter tactics which exist now and will be in effect later.

For example, Col Belyayev considers the leader's lack of opportunity to attack an air or ground target calmly to be one of the arguments in favor of a single fighter. After analyzing this argument it is easy to note that "calmness" in war is a very relative concept. But we must not forget a more important fundamental provision: To think about the leader's "calmness" means to proceed from the self-protective, defensive and not offensive psychology of fighter pilots. Great Patriotic War experience showed that only offensive tactics by fighters ensured them victory in aerial combat.

On the other hand the leader cannot feel calm not only because the wingman is incapable of covering him from behind, but also because with the development of long-range and medium-range aviation weapons the probability increases that the aircraft will be hit under any conditions outside visual contact of the opposing sides. It is impossible to agree with the statement that the leader in turn will not be able to ensure the wingman's safety based merely on the impossibility of executing a defensive maneuver and making an attack by fire on the enemy attacking the wingman.

It is possible to prevent surprise attacks against fighters from the rear and the flank against each aircraft and the pair as a whole through timely detection of the enemy, programmed and combined mutual maneuver of the fighters, generation of intense jamming of the enemy by the fighters with the subsequent delivery of coordinated strikes against him. Greatest effectiveness can be achieved with the presence of two or more combat aircraft in a group. But a single aircraft is limited in application of those tactics which can assure accomplishment of the mission assigned to a pair, especially in combat against fighters.

There is no question that the fire potential of the fighter now has increased immeasurably. It alone is capable of destroying any aerial target, but in practice this is not always possible. It is apparent from the examples given in the foreign press that for various reasons this result is not always achieved.

Commanders who make the decision to send up and commit single fighters hardly can be confident of the crews' complete execution of the tactical assignment, including in the day and night under simple and bad weather conditions. The impossibility of visual contact between members of a pair at night and in the clouds is no reason to send up single crews. The airborne sights of modern fighters permit wingmen to maintain given parameters of a combat formation outside of visual contact. Moreover, this apparently will be possible in aircraft of subsequent generations as well.

Another fact in favor of the pair is that the presence of multifunctional systems aboard fighters in combination with ground-based electronic intelligence facilities substantially increases the possibility of timely detection of the enemy, including in the rear hemisphere, and discovery of his intentions. Consequently, with fighters flying at transonic speeds surprise attacks from the rear hemisphere and missile launches from comparatively short ranges will apparently be a rarer phenomenon than was the case in the Great Patriotic War. At the same time the multifunctional airborne systems sharply increase information loads on the pilot. Therefore the need arose to "redistribute" them among the crews to reinforce each one's reserve capabilities. This means the pair will be more advantageous than the single aircraft in this case as well.

One also must not forget the extremely important psychological factor of the feeling of fellowship in combat, which inspires in pilots confidence in their actions and in a comrade's help. This is confirmed by examples from Great Patriotic War experience.

A group of "Lavochkin's" was covering the troops. On detecting a large group of fascist bombers with fighter cover, the Soviet pilots broke off into pairs to attack from different directions. The leader of one pair, Capt Sementsov, began the attack. At this time a pair of Messerschmitts rushed toward his aircraft. Having no opportunity to cut them off by defensive fire, the wingman, Sgt Kochetkov, placed his aircraft in the path of the strike. Sementsov shot down a bomber and emerged unharmed from the attack. The elevator linkage on Kochetkov's aircraft was broken and the pilot made an emergency landing using the trim tab on friendly territory near the location of the aerial combat. Faith in his wingman, in his high moral-combat qualities and his ability to sacrifice himself for the sake of accomplishing the assigned mission allowed Capt Sementsov to bring the attack he initiated to a logical conclusion.

The argument about the leader's impossibility to demonstrate tactics in the air is in my opinion also insufficiently persuasive. The effectiveness of an air clash now depends not so much on a demonstration in the air as on a tactically competent and substantiated concept of combat developed before the sortie and on the precise and coordinated actions of all the group's crews to implement it, including crews of a pair of fighters operating separately. The principle of "Follow me" also has not lost its importance, especially if combat assumes a maneuverable character or is conducted within visual contact of the crews of a group or pair. A carefully drawn-up plan also reduces to a minimum the radio traffic in the air, which is accomplished by transmitting signals, commands and short reports, including about the subordinates' location in the combat formation. This makes it easier for the leader to evaluate the conformity of the combat formation, even if he does not see the wingman visually.

In addition, in combat against enemy fighters and mixed groups, the development of which cannot always be anticipated in advance, it is important to create a numerical superiority at certain moments and at a specific location with the presence of a pair or a greater number of fighters. The pair also has greater opportunities than a single fighter to employ various tactics in

their combination and thus achieve surprise in attacks on the enemy if only with one of the aircraft.

In aerial combat involving today's and future fighters, the division of functions of the leader and wingman into shield and sword really is losing its significance. But now assuring the pair's safety against a surprise hit is a common concern both of the leader and the wingman. Those are the arguments in favor of the pair.

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GROUND FORCES

MOTORIZED RIFLE COMPANY: TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN AFGHANISTAN

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Dec 81 p 6

[Article by V. Verstakov, special correspondent of PRAVDA: "Bogdanov's Company"]

[Text] From the Afghan Notebook

After the April 1978 revolution, political power of the workers was established in Afghanistan for the first time in its centuries-old history. The counter-revolution, however, supported by imperialist circles, has undertaken, and is continuing with, an undeclared war against Afghanistan.

PRAVDA has more than once published communiques about the successes of the people's state and the courage of the Afghan army in defending its country against foreign aggression. The editorial office has received letters asking to tell more about the service of Soviet fighting men, who are fulfilling their international duty in the land of Afghanistan.

The motorized rifle battalion advanced through mountains; its equipment, kitchens, and tents were all left in the valley, and communications with the base were being maintained only through helicopters. Those who have been in mountains know how difficult it is to walk from crest to crest through short gorges and fields of gigantic rocks. Cotton field jackets become white with dust and mountain boots tear, not being able to take the terrain. The direction of the march is toward camp. The return trip is always complex in the mountains: people are tired and can let down their guard....

The motorized riflemen had spent the previous night one kilometer higher, where water froze in the canteens and there was no firewood. They slept side by side, pressing close to each other, but still they froze right through to their bones.

"Prepare for march," orders Major Valeriy Nesterov. Bogdanov's company closes up its formation.

"Now that's an excellent order!" exclaims a ruddy faced senior sergeant, adjusting the shoulder straps of a heavy radio set.

One by one the companies descend from the crest, and disappear into the sea of hills like so many dust-raising chains. The last to begin the march are the subordinates of Senior Lieutenant Vladimir Bogdanov, and two senior sergeants bring up the rear: the one carrying the radio, Nikolay Mikhnov, and his friend, the swarthy and thin Yuriy Nikitin.

Many things are astonishing in Afghanistan. The exotic nature, the poor lives of mountain people and nomads, the dust that sometimes rises by itself and hangs in the air, ancient forts that had been destroyed way back by Genghis Khan, the stone buddhas of Bamiyan, the mosques of Herat and Mazari-Sharif.... But the most significant for me, a non-combatant military journalist, became the second discovery of my contemporaries -- the Soviet fighting men. Heavy ordeals fell upon them, but our fellows proved equal to the task.

I remember how proudly the reconnaissance subunit political officer, Captain Boris Lukashenko, complained: "The problem is to leave a daily detail in the camp when we go into the mountains." After Lukashenko's story I questioned one of the "stubborn" ones, Private Nikolay Onosha. He became embarrassed and answered evasively: "Well, you know, it's boring to stay in the camp without the guys...." Yes, in Afghanistan our officers and enlisted men, without any conspicuous spirit, are fulfilling their duty, not an abstract duty, but a concrete one, and they are doing it before their country, before the entire army, and before their friends and comrades-in-arms.

Mikhnov and Nikitin have also been fulfilling this duty in a worthy manner for nearly two difficult years, the evidence of which can be seen by the awards on their chests.

Up, down, from crest to depression, and again to a crest. Hour after hour, kilometer after kilometer, so advances the battalion. Toward noon they climbed up to the next small hill. A halt was called. Mikhnov and Nikitin immediately began an argument as to whether the little tree under which they were both sitting was a hawthorn or a cockspur. I wasn't listening too carefully to their conclusions, but tried to understand what it is that makes these two fellows so much alike. Mikhnov is a year younger, sociable, and likes to speak with a teasing, "southern" intonation. Someone nearby threw his backpack to the ground and Mikhnov already squinted at him: "Mish, my good fellow, we have enough dust without you as it is, but we don't have many backpacks." Mikhnov grew up in Simferopol', finished the technical-professional school there, and worked for a while as a fitter before going into the army.

Nikitin is more scarce with words and restrains himself when he defends his opinion: If you say it is a cockspur, then explain how it is supposed to differ from a hawthorn according to science. Anyway, he answers with a smile to the long pause of his friend, but without crowing over it. But the sergeants are alike in their self-confidence, the freedom of people who have been around, and the military bearing of soldiers who have seen a lot.

The soldier stopped, shook his head no, shifted his automatic weapon from his shoulder to his neck and again took his place in the single file. Nikitin used force to take away his backpack.

At the top, everyone sat silently for some five minutes, catching his breath. Nikitin laid two jackets on the ground, his and Mikhnov's, got some kind of a pill out of the pocket, and made Gasan lie down and swallow the medicine. Mikhnov, in a tired voice, asked over his shoulder:

"What's the matter with Amirov?"

"He's chilled and has a high temperature," answered Nikitin.

"Go to the commander. We'll have to send Gasan away."

"Don't do it, guys. I'll lie down for a while, feel better, and we'll go on. Really!" moaned Amirov from under the jacket.

"Don't hurry life along, Gasan. You'll have to walk through these mountains for a long time yet...."

Nikitin repeated what he had been told by his experienced contemporaries nearly two years ago when he was young and uninitiated by fire. It happened that at the time they crossed the Afghan border, the company had only two soldiers who had been just called into the army -- Nikitin and Leonid Sergeyev (Mikhnov arrived somewhat later from a training subunit). And from those days on, by tradition, the veterans of the company take care of the young soldiers more than they do of themselves.

...The hill which Bogdanov's company had to occupy turned out to be not the best for helicopters. It landed on the neighboring hill, some five hundred meters away. Bogdanov did not order anyone, he asked that whoever was still strong enough, to go there and bring back some containers with food and to take the sick Amirov there. Mikhnov, Nikitin, and Private Viktor Telichko volunteered.... We, who remained, saw how above the precipice, its breast against the wind, beating its wings hard and futilely, some sort of a large black bird hung in the air; it could not overcome the air current at all and rushed downward at an angle. And along the narrow crest through the same wind, four Soviet soldiers were descending, huddling, stumbling, and barely moving their tired legs.

The helicopter took Amirov aboard, and the rest of the battalion spent several more hours in the mountains. But whether it was a long time or a short time, finally it also reached camp. And I left the motorized infantrymen for a short period of time: everyone had to wash himself and change clothes. We met again after dinner. Amirov was lying down in his tent, in his corner bunkbed. It turned out that he had a fever that is not uncommon and he did not want to go to the medical battalion. Mikhnov also looked as if he had the flu, his face was covered with small drops of sweat, but he continued to joke:

When the sun reached its zenith and the shadow under the unidentified tree grew as short as the diameter of the tree-crown, suddenly a wind came up and a dust storm began whirling around us. Mikhnov threw up his hands at his cockspur and went to the observers. In a couple of minutes the dust storm raced off to another hilltop and it became clear and quiet, and in this quiet bullets began to whistle. The command "Take cover" and Mikhnov's report came at the same time:

"There are six persons next to separately standing trees at a distance of one and one-half kilometers."

The report was listened to with understanding: If it is one and one-half kilometers, then they are shooting at random and are not aiming.

...There is nothing worse in the mountains than to descend along a steep rocky incline: your feet slip and your legs are pulled apart and your petrified muscles quiver, and you try to talk them into not fooling around and to bow to your will, and you invent all kinds of clever tricks: where can you get by on your heels and where do you have to steady yourself with your elbow. Time and again someone falls, gets up hurriedly, showing with his entire body that this was an accidental happening. Near the valley we met up with a parallel chain of Afghan soldiers. They were moving along a lower more comfortable level. The Afghans have field equipment, but there are elements of comfort, for example, a transistor radio. Out of kindness, the Afghans found the Moscow "Mayak" on the air and turned it on louder. "This is not important, this is not so important. It is important that someone be next to me," a woman was convincingly singing. Mikhnov smiled with embarrassment.

"I cannot even believe that somewhere there can sing so happily. It seems to me that the entire world is marching in the mountains right now."

The white sun burns unrelentlessly, and long-empty canteens swing on belts, stones roll down, and tiny weightless dust particles hang in the air. But there is a reward in the valley, a tiny two-meter-wide stream, but still a real stream. The soldiers took off their backpacks, lay down on the rocks, and their lips reached for the water, the first fresh water they had during the march. Mikhnov and Nikitin preserved the dignity of veterans, and slowly and fastidiously washed themselves, then filled their canteens, and drank from them.

An hour later, the company left the valley and came out into the foothills of the next high mountain. They had to gather what remained of their strength, reach the crest from the march, and there wait for the helicopter. Without a break, they went up single file. About fifteen minutes later, in an open area, to the right of which was a cliff and to the left a precipice, a tall thin soldier walking ahead of us began wobbling and covered his eyes with his hand. Nikitin rushed toward him and grabbed him by the shoulders:

"Hold on Gasan, we are already close. Give me the gun, I shall carry it the rest of the way."

"In the mountains a man is a man, but down below he looks like a fly-catching strip."

Nikitin was smoking in the arbor, leafing through his album. The political officer of the company, Senior Lieutenant Vladimir Tolstov, was next to him and was also looking through the album with interest and respect. I am copying down the first little page and this notation in my notebook: "Even after many years, the person who looks at these pages will find what I went through. Sleepless nights will become real, as will reveille, alerts, nostalgia for mother, for home, and for friends.... All this is included in the word 'army.' The army is a tough school for life."

And the album ends with the words: "Glory to the Soviet soldier who left a part of his youth in this land."

Just a bit earlier, Tolstov held back Nikitin's hand, which was ready to turn the page with the notation: "Minsk - a meeting in 1982."

"Yura, was it Kukharchik who wrote this? ..."

"Yes, we vowed we'd meet at home. He was a good guy, wasn't he, Vladimir Alekseyevich?"

Senior Sergeant Mikhail Kukharchik, secretary of the company Komsomol organization and commander of a unit, having gone through a lot, returned home several months ago, passed his exams at the institute, and became a party member. Nikitin also told about the parents of his earstwhile contemporary: Mikhail, as befits a soldier, wrote his parents calm and reassuring letters, and only when they saw their son did they understand what he had gone through. As Nikitin was telling me about Kukharchik, I suddenly remembered the wonderful poem of Yaroslav Smelyakov about a mother who "diapered them in fine diapers and put little warm booties on" her children, and up to the very start of war could not even have guessed that "she was raising heroes of our time."

New fellows kept coming up to the arbor and asked how everything was going at home, what they talk about, and what do they know about them, the fighting men who are serving here. But soon, the commander of the company, Vladimir Bogdanov, came out of the battalion staff camp and announced a formation.

"We're getting ready to march out," began Bogdanov, "are there any here who are sick or who cannot go for any other reason?"

One voice resounded, after a pause:

"I can go in an armored personnel carrier, but can't go on foot: I sprained my foot and it has swollen up."

"I understand. Anyone else?"

The rest were silent. They were ready to begin a new march.

GROUND FORCES

TANK DEFENSE OF SHORELINE DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) pp 5-6

[Article by Col V. Lyzlov, Far East Military District: "Target on the Surface of the Sea"]

[Text] The main efforts of the anti-landing defense are directed toward the retention of areas occupied on the coast, the construction of various obstacles on secondary sectors, and the skillful employment of self-propelled artillery and tanks. In the accomplishment of these tasks, special significance is had by accurate, effective fire on floating targets.

On small water obstacles--rivers, canals, and narrow straits--firing differs little from firing on land targets. It is more difficult to conduct fire on the sea. Here, as a rule, there are no reference points and observable lines, which hinders target indication, the measurement of distances, and sensing the burst, and the waves which are typical of broad water expanses complicate aiming.

It is clear that good training of the crews is needed for the successful destruction, from tanks, of targets moving over the surface of the sea. It is namely this ability which was demonstrated by the tankers of the platoon under the command of Warrant Officer [praporshchik] N. Berezin in the course of a tactical exercise with live firing while accomplishing the mission of supporting the motorized riflemen defending a seacoast.

Prior to leading the tanks to the indicated area, the platoon leader conducted a reconnaissance. Together with the crew commanders, he carefully studied the terrain and selected primary and alternate positions for the combat vehicles. When the pits were ready and the tanks had occupied them, they began to organize the system of fire.

The limits of the zone of fire and supplementary sector were indicated by magnetic azimuths. But since it is impossible to use a compass in a tank, the warrant officer ordered fixing the directions of fire by the marks of the azimuth indicators. This was done as follows. Seventy to one hundred meters to the rear of the tank, the platoon leader occupied a position with which the designated limit of the zone of fire passed through the position (Figure 1).

The gunner, Private N. Stepanov, referred with the large central inverted V on the platoon leader's compass and took the reading of the azimuth indicator. Changing

this figure by 3000 [mils], (adding 3000 if it was less than 3000, or subtracting if it was greater), the gunner obtained the value of the azimuth indicator which corresponded to the direction of the zone of fire's limit.

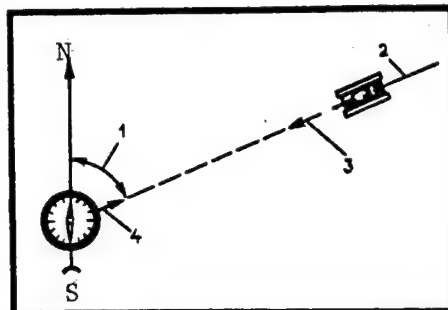


Figure 1. 1) magnetic azimuth of the zone of fire's limit;
2) limit of zone of fire 3) direction of referral;
4) direction of sighting on the tank with designated magnetic azimuth.

The limits of the primary and supplementary sectors of fire were also established for each tank by the azimuth indicators.

Then the tankers drilled in determining ranges to the targets. On a sea surface, they are usually measured either by the intersection of the target from two tanks or from the target's angle of site. The first method is based on the fact that in a triangle, from the value of two angles and one of the sides one can compute any other side. And so as not to perform complex calculations in battle, the rules of fire include a special table. Written in it are the ranges which correspond to a specific target angle (the angle β and β' in Figure 2) and base (that is, the distance between the tanks which are conducting the intersection). The second method is the regular employment of the "mil relation" ($D = H \cdot 1000 / S$), where the height (the height of the tank above sea level) is constant, and the angle of site is measured (Figure 3). There is also a table in the rules of fire to simplify the calculation for this case.

Warrant officer Berezin decided to measure the ranges by the first method from the flank tanks. The distance between them was greatest, and this provided the best measurement accuracy. The platoon leader measured the base between the tanks, which proved to be equal to 500 meters using the fathom, but he could also have used other methods. For example, from the "mil relation" or the rangefinder scale of the sight. Most difficult in this method of range measurement is calculating the size of the angle of intersection (the angle at the target). Therefore, Warrant Officer Berezin drilled the tank commanders in those actions. Since, for the present, there were no targets on the sea, he selected a reference point on the shore which was easily visible from both tanks and ordered the gunners to measure the angles to them at the tanks and to report them.

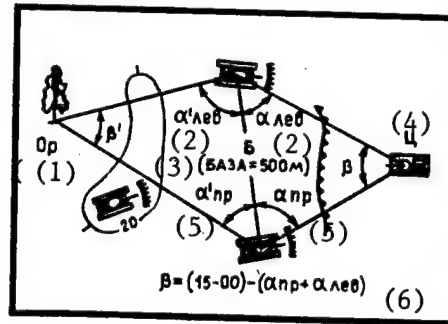


Figure 2. α_{rt} --the angle at the right tank; α'_{rt} --the angle at the right tank to the reference point; α_{left} --the angle at the left tank; α'_{left} --angle at the left tank to the reference point; β --the angle at the target; β' --the angle at the reference point.

Key:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Reference point | 4. Target |
| 2. left | 5. right |
| 3. Base | 6. $\beta = (1500) - (\alpha \text{ right} + \alpha \text{ left})$ |

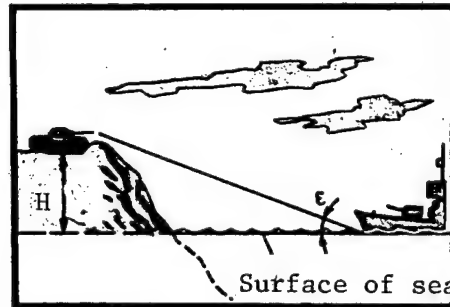


Figure 3.

They reported from the first tank that the azimuth indicator is 930. The reading to the left tank was determined by the crew earlier--1650. Consequently, the angle at the right tank was: $1650 - 930 = 720$. The gunner of the left tank received a reading of 5130 to the reference point. His reading to the right tank was 4620. Hence, the angle at the left tank equalled: $5130 - 4620 = 510$.

Having received the values of the angles, Warrant Officer Berezin added them: $720 + 510 = 1230$. Then he subtracted this value from 1500 (the sum of all the angles of a triangle). The angle at the reference point (target) was determined in this way: $1500 - 1230 = 270$. In the table, a range of 260 meters corresponded to such an angle. But this is for a table base equal to 100 meters, and since it actually equalled 500, the figure of 260 should be multiplied by 5. As a result, the desired

range was obtained--1300 meters. Calling the attention of the tank commanders and gunners to the fact that they must perform these calculations independently in battle, Berezin reminded the sergeants how this is done and continued the drill, designating several more reference points.

The platoon leader's tank, which stood in the middle of the position somewhat farther from the shore, was located on a small height which was designated on the map by the contour line with the marking 20.

Thus, the height of the firing position above the surface of the sea and above the waterline of the presumed surface target could be considered as equal to 20 meters. This permitted determining the range from the angle of site to the target.

To drill the gunner in measuring the angle of site to the target, Warrant Officer Berezin looked through the TKN [expansion unknown] for an anchored buoy. Taking over control of the turret, he directed it at the target. Satisfied that the gunner had discovered the target, the warrant officer ordered measuring the angle of site to the target. Private First Class K. Rodin lay the apex of the large central inverted V on the buoy with zero sight settings and then, without throwing off the position of the gun, by rotating the knob of the side level he moved its bubble to the middle and read the readings--2880. This meant that the angle of site to the target equals: $3000 - 2880 = 120$. In the table, a range of 4530 meters corresponded to this angle. Dividing this value by 5 (since 20 is the actual distance of the tank above the sea--5 times less than 100--the height difference for which the table was calculated), Berezin determined the desired range and commanded the gunner: 900! In order to teach Private First Class Rodin to use the table independently and perform the necessary calculations, the warrant officer repeated with him the measurements to several other floating objects.

After completion of the drill in measuring ranges, the platoon leader reminded the tankers of the procedure for firing at targets which are rocking on the waves. He told about the phenomenon of the "delay" of the round which consists of the fact that the shell does not fly out of the bore when the gunner presses the electric trigger, but somewhat later. Naturally, the target can change position by the moment of the shot and the shell will fly past. In order to avoid a miss, the tankers learned to determine the necessary amount of lead for the delay of the shot correctly. They drilled in pressing the electric trigger with consideration of the target's rate of oscillation.

All this training helped the tankers to conduct live firings successfully. The crews measured distances accurately and destroyed the "enemy" target with the first round.

At the critique, the exercise leader praised the tankers for accurate fire. However, he called attention to the fact that the tank commanders still calculate the angles at the target during its intersection from two tanks without sufficient speed, and only Private First Class Rodin received good practice in measuring the angles of site to the target on this lesson, while all gunners should be able to do this.

After the critique, Warrant Officer Berezin was assigned the mission to organize a training site on tank gunnery drills which is equipped with sights on stands

with an azimuth circle and side level and to drill tank commanders and gunners in measuring ranges by intersection from two vehicles and from the angle of site to the target in order to eliminate the defects in the training of the tankers which had been discovered.

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GROUND FORCES

MOTORIZED RIFLE UNIT: NIGHTTIME RECONNAISSANCE IN MOUNTAINS

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) p 7

[Article by Col N. Yezhov: "Reconnaissance in the Mountains at Night"]

[Text] In preparing for the conduct of a demonstration lesson on the subject, "The platoon in a combat reconnaissance patrol at night," Warrant Officer [praporshchik] N. Sitnikov, together with the squad leaders, selected a terrain sector (route) with typical relief on the eve of the lesson on which he noted reference points and determined the location of the OP [observation post]. The lesson leader analyzed the most difficult questions with his assistants on a terrain model.

The following were indicated to the operator of the target situation: the order for showing the targets, the use of simulation means, and signals (a three-color electric light was used). Targets with simulators of a searchlight with an infrared filter and burst flashes as well as regular targets, smoke-puff charges, signal and illumination cartridges, and smoke pots were envisioned to simulate targets.

During self-study, the motorized riflemen studied the procedures and methods for the conduct of reconnaissance, the organization and tactics of the defensive operations by the probable enemy's subunits at night in the mountains, and the give-away signs of various weapons (targets).

The motorized riflemen arrived at the location for the lesson 30 minutes prior to sunset. Announcing the subject and goal of the lesson, Warrant Officer Sitnikov oriented his subordinates on the ground, led them into the tactical situation, and assigned the mission for observation. Designating the reference points, the leader of the lesson called the attention of his subordinates to the fact that with the onset of twilight the distinction between a ridge and ravine disappears and hills, buildings, and a forest on the slopes of mountains change their outline. Their outlines which were easily visible a minute ago became diffuse.

Reminding the trainees that the human eye perceives distances to various objects differently under daytime and nighttime conditions, Warrant Officer Sitnikov pointed out the necessity to combine observation with listening.

Before conducting the squads to the training sites, the platoon leader ordered all personnel to remove badges of rank and insignia and to turn in documents, notebooks, personal correspondence, and photographs. This at first glance insignificant special situation raised the combat moral-psychological mood of the men--we are going on reconnaissance!

Receiving the report of readiness, Warrant Officer Sitnikov commanded by radio: "Begin observation!" At the same time, the operator of the target situation was given the signal to show the targets.

Utilizing night-vision instruments and BI-8 binoculars (on a moonlit night--regular binoculars), the trainees began their observation. Discovering "enemy" weapons and determining the distance to them, they reported about this by giving target indications. The squad leaders plotted the intelligence data on a terrain sketch and made the appropriate entries in the observation log.

When studying the terrain in the night sight (when only the power supply was turned on), the scouts determined the range to the "enemy" infrared instrument from local objects which landed in its beam. In order to facilitate range determination, the observer turned on his searchlight for a short time from time to time. But when the sources of "enemy" infrared emission were not discovered, the range to the targets was also determined using his own searchlight.

Upon the expiration of the established time, the platoon leader ordered cessation of observation. The sergeants conducted a brief critique on the results of target reconnaissance using a PNB [night vision instrument] and announced a grade for each soldier. After this, Warrant Officer Sitnikov assigned a mission for the scouting of weapons illuminated by an outside source of light (searchlight, flare, flame of a fire, and so forth).

After selective questioning conducted with the showing of the targets, and convinced that the trainees received sufficient skills in the conduct of reconnaissance from in place, the leader of the lesson began to work out the second question--the conduct of reconnaissance while on the move with the action of a squad in a dismounted patrol.

Before beginning the practical working out of the actions of patrol members, Warrant Officer Sitnikov ordered checking the fitting of equipment and the packing of the knapsacks so that nothing jangled, clanged, or made a noise. Then he recalled the basic rules for movement in the mountains.

To drill the personnel, the platoon leader ordered the sergeants to dispose the squads at a distance of 50-70 meters from his OP. The soldiers began to move on a signal. The task was for each of them to approach in the shortest possible time and as close as possible to the squad leader unnoticed; the latter discovering the trainee, ordered him to stop.

The subordinates of Sergeant V. Rudoy operated most skillfully. Private First Class G. Dotsenko and Privates V. Mityushin and K. Nazaryan stole up to the squad leader closest of all. However, even here not everything proceeded smoothly for the young soldiers. Hardly having begun to move, Privates O. Mizirev and V. Kolobov were discovered. Returning them to the initial position, Sergeant Rudoy explained their errors to the patrol members. After a critique, he ordered them to repeat moving out. In this case, the task was made more difficult since according to the lesson leader's special situation the "enemy" had begun to illuminate the terrain with flares.

With the flashes, the patrol members immediately lay down on the ground until the onset of complete darkness. If local objects proved to be nearby during the firing of the flares--a boulder, tree, or bush-- the motorized riflemen used them for camouflage.

Trainees who demonstrated good results were granted the right to observe the actions of their comrades and participate actively in the critique of their errors. Such a method enlivened the lesson considerably and contributed to the generation of diligence, resourcefulness, and independence in the soldiers.

Next, Warrant Officer Sitnikov related that the technique for the conduct of reconnaissance by the patrol in the mountains at night consists of the successive inspection and occupation of points which are covert and convenient for observation: on hills, crests, and in the folds of the terrain. In practice, the instruction proceeded in the following manner. In accomplishing the mission as a patrol, the squad of Sergeant V. Rudoy conducted reconnaissance along the route of march of a combat reconnaissance patrol and moved forward to the distance of fire support by its main body. Patrol members Privates V. Mityushin (senior) and K. Nazaryan, reaching the planned OP and looking around, gave the conventional signal, after which the patrol leader moved out to the OP and personally conducted observation.

Satisfied that the path was free, Sergeant Rudoy noted the next easily visible point and ordered the patrol members to move farther along the route.

It should be noted that not only the patrol members who were moving ahead actively conducted reconnaissance. The other men also conducted observation in the direction strictly indicated to each one. The patrol squad was closed by Private First Class G. Dotsenko. His mission included the conduct of observation to the rear and protection of the patrol from the rear.

In addition, all the soldiers attentively followed the commander's actions. This permitted him to control the squad clearly and, when necessary, to change direction sharply and rapidly. Thus, during the approach to a small hill the patrol members discovered the "enemy." The motorized riflemen immediately lay down and prepared for action. Crawling, the patrol leader moved out ahead and, using the night vision instrument, inspected the terrain which lay ahead. Discovering engineer construction, Sergeant Rudoy drew the conclusion that there was an ambush ahead. The patrol leader plotted its location on a map, determined the coordinates, and then decided to establish the "enemy" strength and try to find a route of bypass. He reported his decision to the platoon leader. Warrant Officer Sitnikov approved the decision.

Dividing the squad into two groups, Sergeant Rudoy assigned specific missions to each one and designated the place and time for assembly.

The groups returned at the designated time. From their reports, it followed that the "enemy" up to a reinforced platoon in strength had organized an ambush on a hill. However, as was established by the first group, there was a bypass along a gorge which ran along a dry stream channel.

Reporting to the platoon leader about the "enemy" forces and defining in detail once more his places of disposition, discovered weapons, and bypass paths, Sergeant Rudoy continued to accomplish the mission.

The patrol operated just as skillfully when inspecting a lone building and bridge across a gorge as well as when encountering "enemy" reserves which were moving out. The success of the motorized riflemen was furthered by profound knowledge of the rules for the conduct of reconnaissance, the good state of preparedness for actions in a difficult situation, and high moral-psychological and physical tempering.

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GROUND FORCES

IMPORTANCE OF SERGEANT'S AUTHORITY DISCUSSED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) pp 9-10

[Article by Senior Warrant Officer B. Golubtsov, platoon leader, Moscow Military District: "The Sergeant's Authority"]

[Text] One could not fail to note the striking changes which had occurred in Sergeant V. Zubarev after his return from the training center. There, during firing and driving combat vehicles, it seemed that he displayed his best commander qualities. His clear command language, competent assignment of missions to subordinates, firmness in controlling the subunit--all this made an impression. But what became of the sergeant's energy and good management, initiative, and independence after the conclusion of field lessons? With the arrival of the men in the barracks, the deputy platoon leader seemed to dissolve in the mass of soldiers and ceased to exist for them as a commander....

In order to be convinced of this, it was sufficient to observe the interrelationships of the platoon's men from the side.

...Two soldiers, bypassing their immediate commander, turned to the company first sergeant concerning the replacement of boots. The platoon leader began to learn from one of the soldiers the reasons for his frequent tardiness in formation. Evidently, it had already been established here as follows: despite the regulations, all questions are resolved "over the head" of the sergeant. The solution to the passivity of deputy platoon leader Zubarev was also concealed in this. It turned out that the platoon leader, Warrant Officer [praporshchik] V. Zaytsev, frequently assumes sergeant's duties: in the forming up and conduct of the morning inspection and so forth. Such frequent substitution accustomed Zubarev to display commander's demandingness only in the accomplishment of training-combat missions.

Unfortunately, this is not the only case where we, in encouraging in every possible way the personal example of the junior commanders in combat training, deliberately allot a secondary role to them in the remainder of service activity. Does it really not happen that even in the accomplishment of simple tasks, let us say, the cleaning of weapons or policing the area, the soldiers are led by officers or warrant officers rather than by sergeants? Such guardianship and lack of confidence only fetters the activity of junior commanders, blunts their sense of responsibility for what has been assigned, and humbles their authority in the eyes of their subordinates. Moreover, having become accustomed to guardianship, the sergeants cease devoting attention to the shortcomings of the soldiers in service and discipline, counting on the senior commanders who note and correct everything.

Thus, because of the deep-rooted habit, some commanders frequently substitute for the sergeants, thereby dooming them to inactivity. Isn't it strange that it is namely these comrades who lament: the sergeants, they say, "are not what they should be," they cannot be relied upon in questions of strengthening discipline and interrelationships as called for by the regulations. Arguments such as these are presented: earlier, they say, the authority of the junior commanders was higher since they were older than their subordinates.

I also included the period when active duty lasted for three years, but I will never agree with the opinion that then the sergeants were better than today's. The general educational level of the soldiers has been raised considerably now, the range of their thinking has become broader, and their requirements are more many-faceted. It has become more difficult to work with people. In order to organize the training and indoctrination of subordinates correctly, the sergeants should have high theoretical and practical training.

Some commanders are inclined to explain the poor skills of individual sergeants, especially in the indoctrination of subordinates, by incomplete work in the training subunit alone. At times, they refer to this even when a year or more has passed since the release of the junior commander. And it is worth asking the question: has anything been undertaken during this time in the line subunit for the sergeant to acquire the necessary qualities and be fully utilized? For in essence, the practice of commander's service begins for him at the moment when he receives the squad, crew, or section under his command. Here the officers and warrant officers should help him to become familiar with his new post. Instead of this, at times you hear pointless arguments about the insufficiently trained replacements for the sergeants. Isn't it time to abandon such talks which, for some people, serve as a convenient cover for their own inability and even the lack of desire to work with the sergeants in the right way?

Work with sergeants is a capacious concept. It includes more than their training in accordance with existing programs and methodological recommendations. In my view, a large role is played here by the organization of all service in strict conformance with the regulations, monitoring and assistance on the part of officers and warrant officers, and their ensuring of a high role for junior commanders in training and discipline.

The platoon commanded by Senior Lieutenant S. Budilkin is firmly retaining first place in socialist competition for a worthy greeting of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation. In his opinion, success was ensured by the active work of the sergeants.

"I let the sergeant do independently what is called for by the regulation, without restraining him with petty guardianship and distrust," says the senior lieutenant.

Without meddling in the field of activity of the junior commander, at the same time the officer holds him strictly responsible for ensuring organization and discipline.

One day, he reprimanded Junior Sergeant G. Dubrovskiy--one of his subordinates had not been accustomed to order as called for by the regulations. Dubrovskiy admitted that it is most difficult for him to establish correct interrelations with Private M. Vlasov. They were both called up from the same city, and until Dubrovskiy's appointment as squad leader they were firm friends.

"Comradely relations are retained, but I feel that Vlasov does not always accept me as a commander; sometimes it is as if he opposes my changeover from confidentiality to demandingness," the squad leader admitted frankly.

The officer listened attentively to the junior sergeant. He answered him:

"Perhaps, it is sufficient for some soldier that you were appointed to a sergeant's post; he obeys willingly and gives you respect as his senior in rank. And others, including your fellow-countryman, want to see in you a genuine commander who generates respect by his irreproachable behavior and precise accomplishment of prescribed duties.

Senior Lieutenant Budilkin advised the sergeant to evaluate his own activity critically: is he able to influence his subordinates by personal example, does he always manifest adherence to order as called for by the regulation himself or, in bringing it about does he refer to the orders of the senior commander? It is difficult for a sergeant to count on the effectiveness of his demandingness if he himself is not a model of a high state of discipline, military bearing, neat external appearance, observance of the rules for wearing the uniform, and military courtesy.

"It is not for nothing that the saying exists in the army: 'You yourself must be what you want your subordinates to be'," the officer concluded.

In following the commander's advice, Junior Sergeant Dubrovskiy was able to attain prescribed mutual relations and exemplary internal order in the squad. This was furthered by the constant concern of Senior Lieutenant Budilkin for raising the authority of the junior commanders. The soldiers learned firmly: not one problem in the platoon is resolved bypassing their immediate commanders--the squad leaders. In determining the type of commendation, the officer consults with the sergeants without fail. The platoon leader considers their opinion and their evaluation of subordinates when imposing punishment. In turn, this forces the junior commanders to study their subordinates attentively and to have a more active influence on them in the course of daily training and service.

Checking and assistance, demand and confidence are the chief criteria for raising the role of the sergeants--this is also believed by the leader of an excellent platoon and member of the battalion party bureau, Senior Warrant Officer G. Popovskikh. Here is what they say about him in the unit: "If someone disparages the authority of the sergeants, often putting them on the same level as the soldiers, Popovskikh also raises the privates to the level of the junior commanders." This evaluation corresponds to reality.

Georgiy Trofimovich boldly involves in the accomplishment of important tasks not only the sergeants of the platoon, but also the well trained soldiers. And matters only gain from this. Thus, with the conversion of the equipment to summer operating conditions, for some time the soldiers had to work in the absence of the sergeants and the platoon leader himself. Popovskikh calmly left Private I. Aksenov in his place. The senior warrant officer had confidence in this sociable and disciplined soldier who had mastered his specialty excellently and succeeded in showing himself to be a skillful organizer. Confidence inspired the soldier. Under his leadership the personnel coped with the task successfully.

Senior Warrant Officer Popovskikh never draws rash conclusions about the commander capabilities of a new sergeant. First of all, he gives him the opportunity to feel that he is a full-fledged chief, stimulates him to assume responsibility for the strengthening of military order, and teaches him to make proper use of the rights which are granted him. This is also what happened with Sergeant I. Shiporenko who initially, as luck would have it, received the reputation of a person who does not possess the skills of a leader and organizer. Popovskikh saw that while still in the period of active service they spoke of his subordinate as a good junior commander. Now Shiporenko, a warrant officer, is filling an officer post and is coping with his duties in an excellent manner.

I should also like to dwell on the following. "Do as I do!" is a principle by which the commander should be guided not only in questions of instruction, but also in the indoctrination of the soldiers. It is not without reason that M. I. Kalinin called indoctrinational work one of the most difficult because it is connected with our personal behavior.

It is a pity that we forget this sometimes. The following still happens with us. A serviceman disrupts the sequence for accomplishing a standard--each commander considers it his duty to interfere and correct him. But the same commander looks with incomprehensible condescension on what he erroneously considers an insignificant display of indiscipline and even violates the requirements of the regulations himself with thoughtless ease. Sometimes, this is displayed in non-observance of tact and correctness in relations with the sergeants. In such cases, it is permissible to ask: are we right in expecting from them respect for their sergeant rank and the corresponding demandingness if we do not see commanders in them?

The lofty authority of the sergeants is a mighty means for indoctrinating subordinates in a spirit of discipline and industriousness. In remembering this, the commander of our subunit and the party and Komsomol organizations are concerned that the sergeants increase their knowledge and improve practical skills in indoctrinational work with people.

These goals are served by lessons on military pedagogy and psychology, the exchange of experiences, and conferences at which the activity of the junior commanders is analyzed. But nevertheless, it is believed, training will be even more effective in the case where it is supplemented by daily individual work with the sergeants on instilling in them personal responsibility for the discipline and combat readiness of their subordinates. This should be remembered always and everywhere just as the indoctrinational influence of personal example should be.

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GROUND FORCES

MAR ARTY G. PEREDEL'SKIY, CINC GROUND FORCES ROCKET AND ARTILLERY TROOPS ON COMBAT TRADITIONS

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) pp 12-13

[Article by Mar Arty G. Peredel'skiy, commander of Ground Forces Rocket and Artillery Troops: "Loyal to Combat Traditions"]

[Text] Artillerymen have inscribed many glorious pages in the history of our people's armed struggle for the freedom and independence of their native land. During many-century development, artillery was constantly the main firepower of the troops.

The Golden Hordes and Teutonic Knights and the Swedish and Polish interventionists personally experienced the accuracy and power of the strikes of the men who fired the harquebuses and the gunners. Peter I called the artillery the "decider of victory" after the Battle of Poltava in 1709. The skillful use of gunfire on the battlefield many times ensured success for the Russian generals P. A. Rumyantsev and A. V. Suvorov. In the Patriotic War of 1812, Russian artillerymen displayed numerous examples of high combat skill, heroism, selflessness, and love for the motherland. The mass use of artillery on the most important sectors of the Battle of Borodino greatly helped M. I. Kutuzov to defeat the enemy's attempts to smash the Russian Army. The defenders of Sevastopol' and the heroes of Shipka continued these glorious combat traditions. Russian artillerymen always accomplished their military duty on campaigns and in battles.

The artillery played a large role in the defense of the first republic of workers and peasants in the world. In the years of the Civil War and the foreign military intervention, Soviet artillerymen skillfully smashed the enemy. Units of the Red Army often experienced a shortage of guns and ammunition, but the principle of concentration of the artillery in the defense and the attack on the decisive sector often led to victory. This is what happened at Tsaritsyn and Ufa, and Petrograd and Voronezh....

In 1920, the Wrangelites committed tanks to battle on the Kakhovka bridge-head. This did not catch our artillerymen unawares. They destroyed the moving armored vehicles with accurate fire. The enemy attack was defeated. Here, at Kakhovka, the system of antitank defense which was created by Soviet specialists, an important role in which was played by field guns, underwent its combat check and, besides, successfully.

The prewar five-year plans became an important stage in the development of new types of artillery: antitank, antiaircraft, and rocket. Traditional models of equipment were also improved simultaneously. Thus, the M-30 122-mm howitzer which was developed by the famous designer, F. F. Petrov, had no analog abroad. It won glory in the crucible of battles as the best gun of World War II.

And this also was loyalty to traditions. We cannot fail to remember that during the many centuries of history Russian armorers occupied leading positions. Thus, the howitzer which was created in the middle of the 18th Century was one of the best guns in Europe for those times and was in the inventory for almost 100 years. The talented designer V. S. Baranovskiy was the first to invent a rapid-firing cannon with a rifled bore. Russian artillerymen were the first to employ a new system, the mortar, on the fields of battle.

The sons and daughters of our multinational people displayed mass heroism in the years of the Great Patriotic War.

I will remember forever the episode which was related in the newspapers in 1941. On one of the sectors of the Southern Front a gunner, Private Ya. Kol'chak, set fire to four enemy tanks in a stubborn battle. For this exploit Kol'chak was the first artilleryman to be awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union on 2 August 1941.

We, frontline fighters were struck then not only by the boldness and coolness of the soldier, but also by the combat skill with which he waged the unequal battle.

The artillery subunits of the Leningrad Front fought heroically. When going on combat duty, the gun sections and commanders of platoons and batteries took an oath that they would not permit the enemy to conduct aimed fire on the city. And they kept their word.

The principle of the mass employment of artillery received further development on the fields of battle. On the morning of 19 November 1942, after a powerful artillery preparation, the historic counteroffensive of the Soviet troops at Stalingrad began. About 14,500 guns and mortars and 115 rocket artillery battalions participated in the mighty battle. Beginning in 1944, it is namely this day which is marked in our country as Artillery Day (from 1964--Day of Rocket and Artillery Troops). More than 45,000 guns, mortars, and rocket launchers took part in the Berlin operation. The concentration of such a quantity of combat forces became possible thanks to the creation of artillery brigades and breakthrough divisions and corps in the Soviet Army. There were no such powerful artillery large units in the armies of fascist Germany, the United States, and Great Britain.

The improvement of the combat employment of artillery led to the birth of a new form of fire support--the artillery offensive. It permitted the accomplishment of tactical as well as operational missions successfully.

In the war years, the Soviet people correctly called the artillery the "god of war." The artillery also developed intensively in the postwar years.

Today the artillerymen and rocketeers are successfully mastering the science of winning, improving soldierly skill, and achieving high grades in combat and political training.

The exercises "Zapad [West]-81" were an important test for our men. Difficult and important missions were assigned on them: the destruction of various targets by fire, the conduct of fire at a given rate for a long time, day and night, the occupation and leaving of firing positions in minimum times, and many others.

At each stage of the exercises all specialists displayed selflessness, initiative, and resourcefulness and demonstrated increased professional skill. The warrant officers [praporshchik] and sergeants--the first assistants of the officers and our most numerous detachment of commanders--operated skillfully and decisively.

Warrant Officer M. Shevchuk displayed much diligence in preparing the equipment for the exercises. And the fact that the guns fired faultlessly is unquestionably to his credit. But the warrant officer must not only be occupied with equipment. For example, when displacing firing positions he noticed that one gun was moving slowly. It was felt that it was being driven by the hand of a soldier with a lack of confidence. Being nearby, Warrant Officer Shevchuk by advice and deed helped the young driver-mechanic to cross a difficult terrain sector and have confidence in his own strength. Such incidents arose on the exercises many times. This is why Warrant Officer Shevchuk received a state reward.

In following combat traditions, today's artillerymen demonstrated excellent field ability, skill, and dexterity. In a difficult tactical situation they conducted fire at various ranges at an exceptionally high rate, displaying mutual assistance, a high level of comradeship, and irreproachable coordination. The sections coped successfully with the assigned mission, as a rule destroying targets by direct fire with the first round. And for decisive actions, initiative, and resourcefulness, gunner Private First Class V. Manchur was awarded a reward of the motherland.

Other subunits of artillerymen also operated well. Thus, the men of the battery intelligence section headed by Sergeant L. Kozlev discovered almost all "enemy" targets in time and determined their coordinates accurately. This permitted neutralizing centers of resistance in short times and with the minimum expenditure of shells. The success of the excellent section is not by chance. Its chief devoted much attention to the training of his subordinates and to servicing the equipment which had been entrusted to the subunit. Working with the soldiers, the sergeant did not lose sight of even one small point, constantly polishing the skill of his subordinates. This was also displayed with all obviousness on the "Zapad-81" exercises. For skillful actions in a difficult tactical situation, the section received a commendation from the command element and Sergeant L. Kozlov was awarded the medal "For Combat Services."

The leader of the weapons repair platoon, Warrant Officer K. Yurkovets, was also awarded the medal "For Distinction in Military Service," 2d degree. An experienced teacher and high-class specialist, he led his subunit up among the excellent. And on the exercises, he accomplished all the tasks assigned to him.

The victories of many generations of artillerymen in the past obliges today's men to accomplish much. Today as never before high professional skill, the combat coordination of the subunits, and interchangeability are required of them. For artillery is a crew-served weapon, and the error of one of the cannoneers can entail the untimely accomplishment of the mission. For this not to occur, it is necessary to instill in each specialist a sense of responsibility and self-control.

The successes of the sections and gun crews depend essentially on the level of training of their leaders. The contemporary junior commander should be able to perform the work of all subordinates, take timely note of shortcomings committed by the soldiers, analyze them, and show the men ways to eliminate them. Difficult tasks in the training and indoctrination of subordinates, servicing organizational equipment, and raising combat readiness also face other artillery commanders, including the warrant officers.

In congratulating all the men who read the journal on the 600th anniversary of Russian artillery, I want to wish them new successes in strengthening the defensive capability of our motherland. I am confident that the artillerymen will also note the approaching celebration--the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation--in a worthy manner with soldierly labor.

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GROUND FORCES

PARTY-POLITICAL WORK: IMPORTANCE OF PARTY BUREAU IN UNITS

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) p 15

[Article by Senior Warrant Officer V. Voznyy, party group organizer, deputy secretary of subunit party bureau, Odessa Military District: "To Help and Check"]

[Text] Life, practice, and political training convince us that its effectiveness increases where communists provide a personal example in the mastery of revolutionary theory and have a principled and demanding attitude toward those party members who are poorly concerned for their ideological tempering, are satisfied with an old store of knowledge, and do not remelt knowledge into convictions and convictions into specific deeds. The task of Armed Forces communists, it was pointed out at the 6th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations, also consists of raising the consciousness and responsibility of their comrades for the accomplishment of service duty. In a report at this conference, the Soviet Minister of Defense stressed that basic emphasis in the work of the party organizations must be placed on the ideological-political and military indoctrination of the servicemen and on molding in them an acute sense of responsibility for the country's security.

The party organization of our technical maintenance unit constantly monitors the political training of the warrant officers. At sessions of the party bureau we discuss virtually all current problems connected with it. The essence of such listening is to understand how the communist is working, what is new in the methods of his independent work, and what assistance on the part of the party organization is required. We are interested in his participation in the collective's social life. We strive to help one in time, to correct another, to spread the experience of a third, and we advise a fourth to examine his own activity, evaluate it critically, and draw conclusions.

As a rule, communists prepare for the discussion of such agendas especially thoroughly. The sessions of the party bureau proceed interestingly, in a lively manner, and with value for the one being heard and for those members of the CPSU whom we invite to bring their experience.

Before each hearing it is mandatory that one of the members of the party bureau visits the lessons, checks the students' summaries of the lectures, becomes familiar with the method of working with primary sources, and ascertains readiness for seminar lessons. All this information helps the bureau members to draw specific conclusions on the form in which it is necessary to give the student assistance. When, for example, Warrant Officer [praporshchik] I. Anufriyev began to lag in training, it did not

remain unnoticed. The activists delved deeply into the reasons for this lagging. A thorough talk took place at the bureau. It was decided to help the warrant officer. Communist P. Vol'f was assigned to him; with his constant attention and effective support he taught his fellow-serviceman to make efficient use of the time allotted for self-study and he helped him to attain good progress.

Once Warrant Officer O. Barali also became less diligent in training. A message also arrived to the effect that he is late to formation and is not always courteous and correct with his superiors. Before calling him for a talk and hearing a report, the members of the party bureau spoke with the propagandist. And at a seminar when studying the subject of the role of warrant officers [praporshchik and michman] and extended-service servicemen in instilling discipline and industriousness in subordinates, a talk based on principle took place on the honor and dignity of warrant officers. The first to speak were communists V. Yakushev and V. Kutsak. They set the tone for the entire seminar. The talk concerned the requirements of the party which are imposed on the defenders of the motherland and the instructions of the Soviet Minister of Defense that responsibility for the state of discipline in the collective is borne by each warrant officer. In their presentations the following thought was also heard: there can be no instilling of industriousness in subordinates if the proper order has not been brought about among the indoctrinators themselves. The propagandist also allowed the violator to speak. He was self-critical and evaluated his faults properly. And some time later, when rendering a report before the party bureau, Warrant Officer Barali could already report that he had no further violations of discipline and that he deeply realized the importance of maintaining firm prescribed order and his responsibility for matters in the collective.

The party bureau gives special attention and assistance of every type to those specialists who newly arrive in the subunit. When, for example, Warrant Officers V. Kiforuk and V. Otchichenko joined us, they did not immediately succeed in attaining the level of political training of the other students. They were poorly oriented in the international situation and could not tie the questions being discussed in with the unit's daily activities. The members of the party bureau took over control of their ideological tempering and professional formation. They conducted individual talks with each one, listened to them at a bureau session, and assisted them in work with the works of V. I. Lenin and in preparing for the seminars. And the results are present. Both warrant officers have already passed the first concluding check with a good grade. And, in addition, Warrant Officer Kiforuk has been recommended by his comrades to be a candidate member of the CPSU. The young communist enjoys the great respect of his fellow-servicemen. The unit's command element has granted him the right to pass examinations without attending lectures for secondary military school.

The party bureau is directing considerable efforts to seeing that the lectures and seminars are tied most closely with the life of the subunit, the training-combat tasks being accomplished, and with the deeds of the students. For this purpose, we invite the group leader and his deputy to the bureau session. And as a result, an active conversation about the matters of the subunit takes place on each seminar: problems which concern the quality of inspection of the aircraft, the accomplishment of periodical technical servicing, and the economy of fuels and lubricants are examined. Questions raised at the lessons become the start of a creative search by the entire collective.

The party bureau listens to the activists about matters on the assigned work sector. For example, more than once I had to report on how the independent training of the warrant officers is organized, what political literature and other textbooks are in the classrooms, and how saturated and effectively the time allotted for this is used. And if difficulties arise, we always succeed in overcoming them by the efforts of the bureau. Thus, we saw to it that all warrant officers are present for self-training. And on that day the group leader allots additional time for training to those specialists engaged in work. On the assignment of the leader, one of the communists who has already mastered the material being studied helps them. For also during planned self-study the students not only write summaries, but they also discuss difficult questions together.

Of course, our political training group is strong in that the party bureau accomplishes comprehensive and effective monitoring of the training process and it sees that the authority of the communists constantly grows. No one in the group is ashamed if it is necessary to turn to communists P. Prodanets and K. Kichak and to our veterans, V. Yakushev and V. Kutsak, for help. It is namely to them that we are obliged for the fact that each student has begun his own personal library consisting of the works of V. I. Lenin, books on party history, political dictionaries, decrees of the CPSU Central Committee, and other current documents. This permits us to study not only at the time allotted for self-study, but systematically, every day.

The purposeful, active work of the subunit's party bureau helps to maintain the political training of the warrant officers on a high ideological level. For more than 10 years already, our group has been outstanding. I believe that such results are within the power of any military collective where the party organization is strong and where the communists are concerned about the effectiveness of each lesson.

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NAVAL FORCES

ADM V. CHERNAVIN, USSR NAVAL CHIEF OF STAFF ON DISCIPLINE

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) pp 2-3

[Article by Adm V. Chernavin, chief of naval main staff: "Lenin Bequeathed: Strengthen Discipline in Every Possible Way"]

[Text] Our country marks Navy Day in July. This wonderful holiday has become truly nationwide. This year, special significance is attached to it by preparations for the 64th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. On this day, the seamen report to the Communist Party and their people on the results of the socialist competition which is taking place under the slogan, "A reliable defense for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people!" and on their readiness to accomplish their patriotic and international duty at any moment.

The seamen, just as all the men of the Armed Forces, ardently approve the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government, are tirelessly strengthening organization and discipline, and are raising combat readiness. Significant successes in combat training have been attained by the men of the North Sea Fleet, Pacific Fleet, Baltic Fleet, and Black Sea Fleet. Our fleets--the motherland's four naval screens--are vigilantly guarding the homeland's sea borders.

When we name the leading surface ships and submarines, air squadrons, and collectives of the naval infantry and coastal subunits, we have in mind first of all their high level of readiness to operate under any difficult conditions, their solidarity, organization, and strong military discipline.

Our guiding star consists of the behests of Vladimir Il'ich Lenin to the Soviet servicemen. He attached tremendous significance to military discipline. "We led the Red Army to victory," Vladimir Il'ich noted, "not only by agitation, but also by strict iron discipline." On the basis of a deep study of the sources of the victory of the young Soviet republic in the Civil War, V. I. Lenin stressed that the Red Army would not have won without iron discipline. "In order to win," Vladimir Il'ich bequeathed, "...iron, military discipline is needed."

In pondering the deep meaning of the Lenin behests on the role and significance of military discipline, I should especially like to stress that they have not only not lost their force, but have also acquired even greater topicality and practical significance in our time. The conclusions and propositions of V. I. Lenin about the conscious nature of Soviet military discipline as discipline of a new, socialist

type and its fundamental difference from the discipline of the exploiter societies have permanent significance. "The Red Army," the leader of the revolution pointed out, "created unprecedentedly firm discipline not from beneath the rod, but on the basis of the consciousness, devotion, and selflessness of the workers and peasants themselves."

The ideas, recommendations, and advice of Vladimir Il'ich are topical and instructive. At all stages of military organizational development our party, guided by the Lenin instructions, displays concern for raising the combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces and the strengthening of conscious military discipline constantly and persistently.

Firm military discipline was one of the most important sources of the Soviet Armed Forces' victory in the Great Patriotic War. The popular expressions "Discipline--the mother of victory" and "It is one step from discipline to heroism" which were born during those hard years express figuratively and precisely the tremendous role which was played by a high level of organization, execution, and loyalty to the oath in the victory over German fascism and Japanese militarism. In the battles against the aggressors, our men displayed mass heroism, unparalleled bravery, courage and steadfastness, and devotion to the socialist motherland.

The men of the Navy heroically defended the fatherland shoulder to shoulder and together with the men of the other services of the Armed Forces. "Really, we cannot fail to tell about the heroism and courage of our glorious sailor-eagles," said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "whose exploits on the Black and Baltic Seas, in the cold waters of the Arctic Ocean, and on the Pacific expanses inscribed unforgettable pages in the history of the Great Patriotic War."

Today, the glorious heroic traditions are a powerful factor in patriotic and international indoctrination and they serve as a most important source in the molding of lofty moral-political and combat qualities and conscious execution of military duty in the seamen.

Under contemporary conditions the significance of military discipline grew even more in connection with the big, truly revolutionary transformations in military affairs. Our Armed Forces need discipline which, in the expression of V. I. Lenin, has truly been brought to the highest limits. Speaking at the 26th Party Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed that under contemporary conditions the significance of discipline and the significance of personal responsibility are increasing many-fold. The party's instructions also pertain directly to the men.

The contemporary stage of the Armed Forces' development attaches new features to military discipline and imposes increased demands on it. It is the most important condition for the maintenance of high combat readiness and the attainment of victory in battle. It was always like this. But now, figuratively speaking, the price of violation of military discipline has increased sharply. For, as was indicated in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee "On measures for improving party-political work in the Soviet Armed Forces" of 21 January 1967, "the slightest manifestation of carelessness and indiscipline can lead to serious consequences."

The increased role of military order and discipline was thoroughly discussed at the 6th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations. There is no

combat readiness without firm discipline, said the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, in his report. He noted further that military discipline is primarily a political, moral category. Its foundation consists of the conviction of the men and the spiritual maturity of the collective.

The absolute majority of the seamen realize these requirements well and are satisfying them steadfastly in practice. The seamen compare their deeds with the fatherly instructions given by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in letters and in the speeches to the personnel of ships and units during his visit to the North, Black Sea, and Pacific Fleets. In the fleet there are many ships and forces in which there is always exemplary order as called for by the regulations, there are no violations of discipline, and the level of organization is high.

Missions are being accomplished successfully by the initiator of socialist competition in the Navy--the crew of a nuclear submarine, the antisubmarine warfare [ASW] cruiser "Kiev," the Guards large ASW ship "Krasnyy Krym," and the excellent guided missile boat "Kaliningradskiy komsomolets." For high results in socialist competition and the accomplishment of important missions, the collective of the large sea-going tanker "Boris Butoma" has been awarded the title of Crew of Communist Labor. It is the best vessel in the Navy. Its name was entered in the Book of Honor of the Soviet Armed Forces Rear Services.

The contemporary military organism requires the maximum coordination of actions not only of individual servicemen, but also the irreproachable harmony and discipline of entire military collectives. Each man bears personal responsibility for the actions of his subunit, and the latter--for each man. Under these conditions, it is difficult to overestimate the role of friendship and comradeship and the combat and ideological solidarity of the military collectives.

The high requirements for industriousness and organization are also determined by the increase in the role of the moral-political and psychological preparation of the men for decisive actions under conditions of contemporary battle.

We should also especially distinguish such a factor, which requires discipline of the highest limit, as the sharp aggravation of the international and military-political situation in the world which took shape at present through the fault of the aggressive NATO bloc and, first of all, of the United States and its accomplices. High vigilance and combat readiness, firm military discipline and organization, and a lofty understanding of his constitutional duty by each defender of the motherland are necessary to frustrate imperialism's aggressive plans.

Increased requirements are imposed on discipline, organization, and industriousness of the seamen by long cruises and voyages of ships on the seas and oceans. The Soviet Navy has become a fleet of long-distance, virtually unlimited actions. On long cruises and exercises it repeatedly and convincingly demonstrated its tremendous capabilities, and the seamen--their boundless devotion to the party and the beloved motherland.

Ocean cruises have long become the main school for the combat and naval training of the personnel. It is namely on long cruises and in various difficult climate and hydrological conditions that the seamen learn to realize in full measure those high

combat capabilities which are placed in the materiel by designer and engineer thought, persistently master new tactical procedures for the conduct of contemporary naval battle, and are tempered spiritually and physically.

Commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations utilize the educative capabilities of ocean service and long cruises of ships in the interests of molding discipline and organization as well as steadfastness and courage in the seamen.

In the Navy, just as everywhere in the Armed Forces, warrant officers [michman and praporshchik] are making a ponderable contribution to the training and indoctrination of the personnel and the strengthening of military discipline. The majority of them are politically mature people, genuine experts of weapons and equipment, skillful teachers, and reliable assistants to the officers in realizing the requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress on defense questions and the orders of the Soviet Minister of Defense. And, as they say, there is honor in labor.

Just recently, in the Navy hundreds of warrant officers were awarded state rewards, including those for the exemplary accomplishment of missions on the "Zapad" [West]-81" maneuvers of the troops and naval forces. The medal "For Combat Services" was awarded to Senior Warrant Officer [michman] A. Korol', Warrant Officers P. Vasilenko, A. Kondratyuk, and P. Konyushkin, and Warrant Officer [praporshchik] V. Savichev.

Senior Warrant Officer [michman] V. Kostyukov--chief of the team of helmsmen-signalmen--has served on the ship for more than 12 years. A communist, master of military affairs, participant in many long cruises, and wearer of the Order of the Red Star, he has shown himself to be a skillful commander and teacher of his subordinates. The team has been outstanding for several years in a row and all the men here are first- and second-class specialists.

Let us take, for example, the secretary of the party organization of one of the ships, Senior Warrant Officer [michman] V. Skiter. Having a deep realization that tremendous reserves in the strengthening of military discipline on the ship are contained in the personal example and vanguard role of the communists and in the combat vitality of the party organization, he devotes primary attention to the strengthening of party influence on all aspects of the life and combat activity of the ship's collective and attains the ensuring of the unity of word and deed from all. The distinguishing features of his activity are devotion to party principle, a sensitive and attentive attitude to the needs and attitudes of people, and constant concern for the improvement of individual indoctrinational work. Vladimir Georgiyevich was a participant in the 6th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations.

At the same time, I should like to express a number of views on the necessity for a further rise in the role of warrant officers in strengthening military discipline and order as called for by the regulations on ships and in the units. Especially as there are certain shortcomings in this question.

An analysis of the activity of warrant officers shows that some of them are not sufficiently active in manifesting in themselves the quality of educator and shut themselves up in a narrow circle of their special, technical functional duties. Some

of them reason approximately as follows: "When will I educate my subordinates? Either you spend a lot of time with management and technical equipment, or you're on detail, or you are at lessons yourself." Meanwhile, one of the requirements of military pedagogy states: ""In teaching, indoctrinate." Unfortunately, this reserve for the strengthening of military discipline is not always properly used. The warrant officers are always required to indoctrinate their subordinates--in training, in soldierly labor, and at rest. We should see that, as the Soviet Minister of Defense requires, the life's position of each serviceman is determined by conviction: the regulation and order are the law which must be obeyed strictly and implicitly by all without exception.

The skillful organization of individual indoctrinational work with subordinates and a demanding and, at the same time, considerate and sensitive attitude toward them should become the constant concern of warrant officers, petty officers, and sergeants. The experience of the leading subunits, ships, and units shows that the success of the matter is ensured where primary attention is devoted to this question.

It is especially important to be sensitive in handling newcomers, in so doing considering their national special features. "Sharp treatment, unexpected punishment, and coarse shouts," said M. V. Frunze, "will not be understood by the young serviceman, frighten him, and will kill interest in military affairs."

Demandingness is inseparable from attention to people, from closeness to them, from the knowledge and constant consideration of their attitudes, interests, and needs.

We should utilize the force of socialist competition more completely and see that the struggle for honor, dignity, irreproachable behavior, an exemplary external appearance, a smart military appearance, and the strengthening of friendship and fleet comradeship is an integral component part of it.

When we speak of the most effective ways to strengthen military discipline, I should especially like to stress the indoctrinational role of the warrant officers' personal example and authority. It is not without reason that they say that the word summons but example leads. Here, not everything is favorable for us. There still are cases where individual warrant officers do not serve as an example of the exemplary performance of their military duty and violate the requirements of the military regulations and the standards of communist morality, by which they inflict irreparable harm both on combat readiness and the matter of indoctrination.

Each of them should clearly know and strictly accomplish the requirements of the party as well as of the Soviet Minister of Defense and the chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy concerning the further strengthening of military order and should constantly raise his ideological tempering and responsibility for matters in the collective and for the actions of his subordinates. I think that today it is appropriate to recall the basic features and qualities which were formulated at one time at the Army-Wide Conference of Warrant Officers and which should be inherent in this category of command personnel. "The warrant officer," it was noted at the conference, "is a highly-principled military specialist and skillful teacher and indoctrinator."

To achieve the satisfaction of these requirements persistently and purposefully is the urgent call of the time and an important lever in strengthening constant military discipline and order in the units and on the ships.

Tempered in battles for the honor and freedom of the socialist fatherland and loyal to the behests of V. I. Lenin and our party's ideals and policy, the Soviet seamen are filled with resolve to raise vigilance and combat readiness in the future, too, to strengthen military discipline and organization, and to greet the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation with new achievements in military labor.

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NAVAL FORCES

NEED FOR RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE TOWARD EQUIPMENT URGED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) p 6

[Article by Warrant Officer P. Kusherëv, chief of electric motor party, first-class specialist, Caspian Flotilla: "Instill Responsibility"]

[Text] To operate technical equipment under their control correctly and without breakdowns is the sacred duty of each ship's specialists. This is required by the military oath and regulations. As was stressed at the Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations by the Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, weapons and combat equipment can provide the proper effect only if they are in skillful and reliable hands. And at the basis of the conscientious study of military affairs and the competent accomplishment of one's duties, in my opinion, lies the high state of discipline of each crew member. In order to instill this quality in the seamen more successfully, it is necessary to consider the level of their professional state of training, the experience of labor practice in naval service, and so forth.

In speaking with Seaman O. Vashchuk who has arrived on the ship, I noticed that he does not understand electrical engineering badly. This was the result of the fact that prior to service in the Navy Vashchuk worked as an electrician-assembly-man at one of the shipbuilding enterprises. The young specialist prepared for and passed the examination for permission to perform independent servicing of his area of responsibility in the established time.

However, the first practical steps of the seaman showed that, to some degree, he approached the study of the equipment unconscientiously and formally. As they say, he passed the examination and forgot everything the next day. Thus, while standing watch one day at the main switchboard, Vashchuk was unable to restore the rated value of the reduced output voltage. But you see, the rheostat for the adjustment was nearby, on the switchboard. Another time, while servicing the switchboard he did not replenish expended spare fuses.

It would appear that the violation of the established rules could be justified by the inexperience of the young seaman. But for an electrician with experience such as Vashchuk, I explain such "minutia" by a lack of discipline and interest in the matter as well as by the underestimation of the consequences of one or another blunder which is rather widespread in the course of the formation of ships' specialists. Hence, inattention and a lack of self-control during work.

I explained to Vashchuk in detail the consequences to which such carelessness may lead on a cruise. Let us say that a fuse failed. Several minutes will pass while the electrician looks for a serviceable one and eliminates the malfunction. This means that all this time there will be no monitoring of the power plant since the panel voltmeter or ammeter is currentless.

In talks with the seaman, I tried to bring forth in him a sense of pride in his profession. I related episodes of the deeds of seamen in the period of the Great Patriotic War and at present.

The individual, purposeful approach soon provided good results. The seaman realized the importance of the electrician's work and the necessity to perform his duties clearly. And this is one of the main conditions for instilling industriousness in specialists.

Now Petty Officer 1st Class O. Vashchuk has become one of the best electricians on the ship and a first-class specialist. The Komsomol organizer of the department, he serves as an example of the exemplary standing of watch and of a thrifty, thoughtful attitude toward the equipment being serviced for the seamen. One day, prior to regular planned preventive maintenance work Vashchuk reported that in his opinion one of the electric pumps needs to be checked: a strange knock began to appear during operation. We disassembled the pump. The electrician proved to be correct--a bearing was worn. In this way, the precondition for the assembly's failure was eliminated on Vashchuk's initiative.

In practical work, I consider not only the qualifications and moral-psychological qualities of one or another seaman, but also the specific nature of the battle stations. The specialists of our electric motor party service and stand watch at the steering engine. As experience shows, the young seamen of this area of responsibility have more than enough attention and diligence. Having served for only one year, Seaman S. Kozhakin maintained the equipment and worked on it in an exemplary manner.

When Seaman B. Dambayev joined our party, it was decided that he would replace Kozhakin. The young specialist, having completed vocational and technical school, worked as an electrical installer prior to naval service. On the very first lessons I was convinced that he "reads" the diagrams freely and understands the principles of electrical engineering. Therefore, during independent training and in the course of additional lessons we stressed the study of the steering engine and the accomplishment of practical operations. Dambayev prepared himself in compressed times and passed the examination to be permitted independent servicing of his area of responsibility.

The personal example of the more experienced comrades--one of the forms of individual work--also contributes to the instilling of technical discipline. Thus, at one time Vashchuk's professional growth was helped considerably by joint work with the commander of the section, Petty Officer 1st class N. Averin. S. Kozhakin skillfully transmitted his experience in servicing the steering engine to the young seaman B. Dambayev. And here, it is not only a matter of instilling purely technical skills; a live example of a conscientious attitude toward one's duties is just as important.

Among our best specialists, a high state of discipline is manifested first of all in how they work on the equipment. Averin, let us say, conducts an inspection of the main switchboard and must check the tightness of all threaded connections--their weakening is possible due to vibrations. If he discovers a scorched contact, he looks into the reason. Petty Officer 1st Class O. Vashchuk and Senior Seamen K. Karnaukh and A. Titov operate just as competently and thoroughly.

The striving to accomplish their duties conscientiously helps the seamen to expand their technical horizons, master allied specialties, and to be concerned about the good working order of each assembly on the ship. Recently, when the ship was on a cruise, Senior Seaman Karnaukh reported to me that, in his opinion, the housing of the turbogenerator exciter was overheating. The seaman was not responsible for that assembly but, having discovered the malfunction, he could not remain indifferent. Actually, after returning to the base we established that water had accidentally gotten into the turbogenerator. A keen sense of responsibility--this is also the foundation of conscious discipline. It is namely this quality which must be instilled in subordinates first of all. This was stressed by the Minister of Defense at the Army-Wide Conference which took place recently.

The seaman's state of discipline is a capacious concept which encompasses all aspects of life and combat training including a zealous and thrifty attitude toward equipment and its skillful servicing and use. For the ship's successful actions depend on how the specialists of various professions prepare the technical equipment for action and a cruise. To accomplish this work with high quality has become a law for the ship's electricians. This is how the Caspian seamen are greeting the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

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NAVAL FORCES

AMENITIES OF NAVAL BASE DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) p 28

[Article by Sr Lt (Res) A. Mareta, Black Sea Fleet: "Seamen's Oasis"]

[Text] Everything pleases the eye here. Well-formed cypresses, pines, and spruce rustle their odorous crowns above the asphalt lanes and even rows of evergreen bushes curl along along the paths. Heavy, succulent magnolia leaves tremble in the wind. In a well cared for public garden one can admire sequoias, Yugoslav pine, and Japanese akuba. A small plate with the name and brief characteristics of the plant is attached to each tree as if in a botanical garden.

However, it is not a botanical garden. And not even a park of culture and rest. It is the military cantonment of the Nth unit where young Black Sea servicemen live, study, and master military skill. And it is not surprising that they call their cantonment their home, their seamen's oasis. A love for their cantonment, pride in it, and a regard for the people's property are instilled in them from the first days of service. The main thing which strikes the eyes immediately upon entering the area of the cantonment is the cleanliness and order.

"And note: we do everything by the hands of the seamen and petty officers exclusively," says the unit executive officer, Engineer-Captain 2d Rank M. Konichenko, with pride.

Actually, the seamen diligently police the area and look after the plants with care. Here you do not see a discarded cigarette butt, broken branch, or trampled lawn. In order to avoid undefined responsibility, the unit commander divided the entire territory of the cantonment into sections and assigned them to the subunits. Things are put in order daily, in any weather. And subunit commanders carefully see to order.

Yes, strictly speaking, it is not necessary to urge anyone since each seaman strives to leave a good memory of himself in the cantonment. Take, for example, Petty Officer 2d Class Vladimir Nevedomskas who recently left for the reserve. Prior to call-up, he completed a technical school in the specialty of decorative planting. During his off-duty time the petty officer created a beautiful rosarium and greenhouse where flowers bloom every year. Many other servicemen have made and continue to make their personal contribution to the planting and the organization of public services and amenities of the cantonment, finding newer and newer reserves. For

example, a slimy pond had become overgrown in a remote corner of the area in a direction away from the main lanes. In the summer, the seamen cleaned it out, enlarged it, lined the bank with rocks, and started several species of fish in it. But they did not stop with this: they levelled the ground around the pond, set up benches under old branchy willows, and planted dozens of new trees, primarily nut trees. You would not recognize this place now. A wonderful corner for rest was obtained.

Planting is also continuing in other places in the cantonment. Only recently, under the direction of Warrant Officer [michman] N. Pochinkov, more than 100 cherry trees were planted. Of course, not only to have coolness in summer months. The apricots and cherries planted in past years now supplement the seamen's menu beautifully.

And if we speak namely about this aspect of the matter, we cannot fail to mention the use of some sections of the area to raise spring onions, parseley, dills, sorrel, and tomatoes. The seamen are finding new reserves to expand such sectors. For example, the walls of an old, collapsed building stood in one of the corners of the area for a long time. They pulled them down, cleared and levelled the sector, brought in dirt, and fertilized it. In the spring they acquired seedlings, and soon big, beefy tomatoes began to redden on tall, dark green stalks. Warrant Officer P. Gusel'nikov was concerned about all this. He has considerable experience in raising tomatoes in the unit area: each summer he removes the crops from several such sectors, and all this is also given to the seamen's mess.

The thrifty sharpness, initiative, and industriousness of the men is manifested not only in the organization of public services and amenities and planting. In the unit, much is done through the efforts of the seamen to improve conditions for combat training and the living conditions of the personnel. For example, they constructed one of the training buildings and erected and equipped a spacious gymnasium and warehouse areas. During non-training time, the seamen constructed a miniature training site in which the personnel of the garrison guard undergo training. Now, everything necessary for the mastery and consolidation of the regulation's requirements in practice is found here. The smallbore range where the seamen, petty officers, warrant officers, and officers have every opportunity to improve their practical skills in accurate firing has also been equipped thoughtfully and with good quality.

The training rooms and classrooms are a subject of special concern for the men of the unit. The walls are painted in pleasant, bright shades and they are equipped with good, comfortable furniture. Even by itself, this brings maximum conveniences and contributes to raising the quality of the training process. By the efforts of the personnel an entire system of training complexes, various simulators, graphic aids, and operating circuits and mockups has been created. Everything has been done in a technically competent and methodologically intelligible manner and with good artistic taste.

Take, for example, the training room for mine detonation. All processes are automated here. The instructor presses a button and the blinds are lowered on the windows, the projection equipment is turned on, a screen is revealed, and the pictures necessary for the course of the lesson appear on it. Another button puts the circuits and mockups of various explosive devices into operation. An electronic machine created by Warrant Officer L. Slesarev permitted employing programmed instruction. It is interesting to note that electronics is not the warrant officer's main profession but one of his chief hobbies.

Much that is useful has been done to improve the training process by Warrant Officer S. Mikhaylov who equipped a wonderful training room for frogman work, the brothers Warrant Officers Fedor and Vsevolod Pereshivayko, and others.

The striving for a lofty style of military living conditions in this cantonment is felt at every step. The walls of the personnel's mess are adorned with scenic landscapes and still life. And glance into the personnel's quarters. Here, for example, is the area where Warrant Officer V. Konchev is the supervisor of a subunit. Strict military order here gets along excellently with warmth and comfort. Cots which are precisely tucked in were formed up in even rows, and the floor sparkles with cleanliness. The same can also be said about the subunit where the supervisor is Warrant Officer A. Chmyrev. In both subunits, the rooms for domestic services are excellently equipped. Everything for the seamen and petty officers to have the possibility always to be neat and smart in appearance is provided for in them. These rooms can rightly be called a school for the seaman's way of life.

The unit commander, his deputies, and the party and Komsomol organizations devote daily attention to the creation of living conditions necessary for a full-blooded life, the combat training and rest of the men, and the instilling of a lofty living style in them. Questions of the exemplary maintenance of the military unit, the organization of public services and amenities, the provision of conveniences, and the servicing of the personnel concern them just as do questions of combat and political training.

This is the reason why the personnel of this unit invariably occupy leading places from year to year in the competition for the best military cantonment and for a lofty style in everyday military life.

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NAVAL FORCES

GERMAN SOURCE ON CREW TRAINING ABOARD NUCLEAR SUBMARINE

East Berlin AR ARMEERUNDSCHAU No 8, Aug 82, pp 30-33

[Article by Sr Lt Vladislav Shurigin: "A Blow From the Depths"]

[Text] The first thing I have to do is to exchange my army uniform for the navy blue pants and jacket of the submarine crew. My street shoes are exchanged for black sneakers with rubber soles. The regulations require this.

The ship is bigger than a diesel submarine. "Its water displacement is seven times greater," says Lieutenant Vladimir Kisun, who is my escort. The sailors are hard at work without being rushed. They are preparing the vessel for a big trip. At chest height on their uniform jackets they have white cloth strips with writing and numbers on them. Those in the know recognize immediately from this the job of the wearer, what his combat assignment is and on which watch he serves.

There is plenty of room in the main command post of the sub. Officers are sitting behind individual desks. Each of them is responsible for one particular combat sector of the complex ship mechanism. Lieutenant Kisun introduces me to the captain.

The Heart of the Ship

A bright, ivory-colored, high-ceilinged corridor. Easily and silently, a sailor turns wheels and valves; the bulkheads are opening...The transparent floor covering silences the noise of our steps. There is a constant, slight rumbling noise. Another corridor, a porthole..."The reactor." My escort points through the round window. He says the following, as if he were a radio mechanic talking about a network transformer: "Nuclear energy, a servant of human ingenuity, which provides the underwater craft with a practically limitless range. It drives the torpedo-like hull of the boat through the dark, cold depths at the speed of an express train."

People can become fatigued, giant ships can run out of fuel, but the nuclear submarine doesn't know fatigue. It can travel 150,000 nautical miles below the surface. "And a diesel-propelled boat?" I ask my escort. "About 150.

We don't have to surface to recharge the batteries or to ventilate the compartments. Nor do we have to take an additional drinking water. Drinking and cooling water is converted from sea water. Even breathing oxygen is produced right here."

After their watch is over, the sailors shower and relax from their tour of duty in large cabins, watch a new movie in the mess room...

I am surprised about the number and the size of the rooms. They provide good conditions for work and relaxation; everything has been thought of which is necessary for long voyages.

I hadn't noticed that we have been underway and submerged for some time. I can hardly comprehend it: we are out in the middle of the quiet ocean, more than 100 meters below the water's surface.

A World of Energy Aboard Ship

In the nuclear submarine it is never night time, always daytime. Only the cabins in which the next watch rests up can be completely darkened if the sailors so desire. The neon lighting is bright and constant on all battle stations, in the lockers and in the corridors...Veritable halls filled with electronic gear, with modern and powerful hydroacoustic equipment which make it possible to hear and see within a large perimeter in the depths. All that would be unthinkable without energy.

The nuclear sub is equipped with an energy center which would be entirely adequate for lighting a modern city. Who is entrusted with such complex technology? Who maintains it? I meet two sailors of the crew. Incidentally, the term "sailor" isn't quite correct here; Andrey and Vladimir Stolyarov both have the service rank of master technician. They are the ship's electricians, and they are twin brothers. Chief Warrant Officer Evgeny Pleshivtsev, their immediate superior, can hardly tell them apart, since they resemble each other so much. Prior to their service with the fleet, the Stolyarovs worked as electricians and studied at different colleges--Andrey at the Institute for Energetics, Vladimir at the Institute of Mechanical Engineering. This gave them a solid basis for mastering the complicated equipment aboard the submarine. What do the twins, who are specialists second class and wearers of medals for excellence, have to say about their service?

"We were lucky. During the year we were called up for service with the fleet, our ship had initiated an armed forces competition. We immediately went to work with great enthusiasm, especially since a long-distance voyage was in the offing. We will always remember that trip: we learned a lot, experienced the value of shipboard camaraderie, made friends with the crew."

"But even more than that, we were impressed by the 'concert of the depths,'" Andrey joins in. "Our political officer has made a diary of life on board on a tape recorder. You should hear it. The boys are talked about, and some of them come in for some unflattering cracks. And it tells all about our competition..."

I am told that the socialist competition is particularly fierce between the torpedo men and the hydroacoustics crew. For several years now their have been the most effective collectives on board.

A Salvo of Four Torpedoes

The clocks say 4 am. The crew is alerted. A group of "enemy" combat vessels is on the way, steering a course toward the combat-ready submarine. We assume that their acousticians are carefully monitoring our depth. Everything seems to be going well. No danger...But suddenly torpedoes are streaking toward the biggest ship, fired from deep below the surface. The "adversary" increases his speed, tries to dodge. But there are four torpedo wakes, merciless and accurate.

The torpedoes are streaking away into the distance, below the ship's bottom, as intended. In actual combat the giant surface ship would have been sunk without a doubt. The crew is having an animated discussion about this "victory" and I am becoming familiar with the world of the nuclear submarine, no longer surprised about its dimensions and equipment...

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NAVAL FORCES

ADMIRAL DISCUSSES VALUE OF NAVAL TRADITIONS, LONG CRUISES

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 13, Jul 82 (signed to press 14 Jun 82) pp 1-3

[Interview with Chief of the Main Staff of the Navy, Hero of the Soviet Union Adm Vladimir Nikolayevich Chernavin: "At Distant Meridians"]

[Text] Our army and our navy are paying much attention to the education of youth in patriotism and heroism and to its training for heroic deeds and for the defense of the beloved motherland.

Our correspondent met with Chief of the Main Staff of the Navy, Hero of the Soviet Union Adm Chernavin, V. N., and asked him to answer some questions concerning this subject.

[Question] Vladimir Nikolayevich! Our Navy is rich in combat traditions. They are constantly being enriched and developed. Tell us about this, please, in a little more detail.

[Answer] Indeed our fleet is rich in combat traditions. Traditions that were born in the first cruises of our forebears--our seafarers, the renowned engagements of the Russian Fleet, and our sailors' brave and skillful actions in the struggle for the mother country's freedom and independence. Faithfulness to duty, bravery and courage in battle, the friendship and comradeship of the fleet, the love for one's ship--the young generation of sailors is preserving and multiplying these traditions with dedication. They reflect the experience and combat wisdom of our people.

The traditions live on. Remaining unchanged in their main manifestations, they are transformed qualitatively under the influence of new circumstances and requirements.

The visit, prior to a long-range voyage, to monuments to war heroes that have been set up in most military garrisons produces an unforgettable impression on sailors. Northern Fleet submariners place bouquets of flowers on the bas-relief portrayal of Heroes of the Soviet Union M. Gadzhiyev, I. Kolyshkin and others. At meetings that take place here, the submariners vow to carry out their sacred duty with honor and to perform combat-training tasks in model fashion. This vow accompanies them during their voyage, reminding them about duty and about faithfulness to the heroes' glory.

The idea of "coordinates of glory" was born in peacetime. These coordinates are plotted on maps that are found on every ship. Northern Fleet sailors know that the point with the coordinates latitude 69°34' N., longitude 33°39' E denotes the site of the last battle of the escort destroyer "Tuman." On 10 August 1941 the "Tuman" was on patrol. In order to prevent the enemy's approach to our shores, the ship's captain, Sr Lt L. Shestakov, accepted uneven battle with three Fascist minelaying destroyers. The "Tuman" fired until the waves covered it.

Every fleet has such memorable coordinates. Thus on maps of the Baltic a line has been marked that joins the Taran and Rozev lighthouses in Gdansk Bay. It passes through those waters where the submarine S-13, under the command of Capt 3d Rank A. Marinesko, sent the "Wilhelm Gustlov" to the bottom. Thousands of SS men and submariners sank into the deep with it.

In the Black Sea they drop wreaths and pay tribute to the heroes of the leader "Khar'kov," the minelaying destroyers "Besposhchadnyy" and "Frunze" and others. In the Pacific Ocean Fleet they drop wreaths when passing the area of the Tsushima engagement. They pay honor to those buried there--the naval flag is half-masted and a gun salute thunders.

This year a glorious anniversary is being observed--the 60th anniversary of the Komsomol's sponsorship of our fleet. In honor of this friendship, many ships bear the names of the oblast, kray and republic organizations. Such ships have customs of their own. Thus, on the submarine "Pskovskiy komsomolets," a box of Pskov earth taken from the grave of Aleksandr Matrosov is preserved. A handful of native soil, sent from the sacred spot, reminds all of the necessity to preserve the battle glory of heroes. Keys from the gates of Pskov and postcards with views of the ancient city are preserved.

Our fleet is famous for hero ships. The names of famous ships not only live on in history but they are also inherited by new ships. Here is one recent example, the nuclear missile cruiser "Kirov."

When I attended a ceremonial raising of the naval flag on that ship, I recalled its glorious predecessor--the Red Banner cruiser "Kirov": the heroism of the crew in defense of the fleet's main base, Tallinn, the courageous transfer of a detachment from the ship to Kronshtadt, and the assistance to besieged Leningrad. In firing on German troops, the cruiser's crew destroyed several thousand Hitlerites, suppressed many enemy batteries and took tens of tanks, self-propelled guns and aircraft out of action. During the war years a friendship with the sponsors from Kazakhstan was born. And now representatives of this republic came to the ceremony associated with raising the ship's flag. They transmitted the enthusiastic desire of young Kazakhs to serve on the new nuclear submarine.

I recall a nuclear submarine that I happened to command, which was handed the flag of one of the famous submarines of the Northern Fleet of the Great Patriotic War era--the K-21. During the war it was commanded by Hero of the Soviet Union Capt 2d Rank N. Lunin. The K-21 had 17 victories to its credit, including an attack of the Fascist battleship "Tirpitz." In the postwar years the K-21 continued to sail and then was reequipped to be a training and practice station. The memory of this boat will live a long time. It was decided to preserve it as a monument: it will be sent to Severomorsk.

[Question] These are interesting examples! How are they being used, Vladimir Nikolayevich, in educating the new generation of naval sailors?

[Answer] Commanders, political organs and party organizations attribute great significance to combat-traditions propaganda and to the organization of ceremonial rituals and holidays. In influencing not only one's consciousness but also sentiments, such events have great educational significance. Therefore, their ideological content plays an important role.

Each year a youthful contingent comes to Northern Fleet submarines. The young seamen, after they have passed the test for independent handling of their battle stations, are read naval orders, before an unfurled naval flag, that allow them to serve the equipment independently. And on one of the submarines, the ship's captain, after greeting the sailors enthusiastically, hands them a certificate that contains these words: "...today you dedicate yourself solemnly as a submariner. Always remember this day! Its place will be on a par with the most thrilling and most important events of your life. From now on you belong to the breed of the courageous, the daring and the resourceful. Your paths are on the meridians of the brave. Your calling is to be a real master of the depths. You are a replacement for the older generation of submariners. Your place is at the very leading edge of the drive for the workers' happiness and for communism."

Submariners are creative people. They find effective forms of propaganda about traditions that are appropriate to the service situation. I recall that the celebration of singular anniversaries was recorded on one of the boats. The ship noted the 200th dive, 100 days spent under water, and each 1,000 hours of trouble-free and reliable operation of the main mechanisms.

The observance of traditions is not a routine matter. It would seem that the sailors' competition is an ordinary matter. On many ships where its organization is approached creatively, the striving for the right to be named successors to the heroes of the Great Patriotic War is developed among the young sailors. Thus, sailors of the missile and artillery department of one ship took as an example Hero of the Soviet Union Smn-Gunner Grigoriy Kuropyatnikov, the mine and torpedo department took Hero of the Soviet Union Yevgeniy Nikonov, the engineering department took Hero of the Soviet Union motor mechanic Viktor Kuskov. All this imparts a special animation to the competition. The sailors strive to be similar to the war heroes and to carry out responsibilities in model fashion. This was told about in full measure at the All-Army Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations, where the necessity for further improving all ideological and educational work was emphasized once again.

[Question] Vladimir Nikolayevich! You have served for a long time on submarines, participated in long-range voyages and commanded the Northern Fleet. Tell us, what is characteristic of combat training on a long cruise?

[Answer] Long-range voyages by ships have special significance for the fleet, for raising a ship's combat readiness. In the fleet they are called the school of battle training. When actually at sea, naval seamen grasp all the subtleties of the naval sciences, improve control of the newest equipment and weaponry, improve their nautical and military training, harden their wills, and acquire the necessary habits and skills for fighting a strong enemy.

Nowadays such voyages have their peculiarities. Modern ships equipped with the newest weaponry and equipment plow the ocean's vastness. There are nuclear submarines, ASW cruisers and large ASW ships. The young generation of sailors--the sons and grandsons of war heroes--stand at their battle stations on them. In their hearts is a burning love for the motherland, a striving to prize the fleet's glory, to multiply it, and to carry out military duties with honor.

Serious tests fall to the young sailors on long-range cruises. At distant meridians they encounter sultry tropical heat and severe arctic cold, cruel storms and the silence of the depths. And, to the honor of the young seamen, they firmly overcome difficulties and persistently improve their combat skills.

Commanders and political workers have to consider many things during ocean voyages: both the lengthy absence from native shores and the monotonous daily work and environment, and the constrained living conditions and the necessity for maintaining continuous operation of the machinery. All this increases the moral and psychological load on personnel. That is why it is so important to develop high combat-morale qualities in people, to raise their psychological steadfastness and their striving to carry out military duty alertly and firmly.

The process of establishing high political, morale and psychological qualities in personnel is organically merged with the whole system of combat and political training and military education. The essence of this process consists in developing on the part of the sailors, on a firm base of ideological conviction, those qualities that are necessary for battle, such as bravery, valor, resourcefulness and readiness for self-sacrifice in the name of victory over the enemy. It is just as important to inculcate in each person a firm faith in the high qualities of his ship and in the might and reliability of the combat equipment and weaponry, to cultivate the capability to overcome difficulties during a lengthy voyage and to sustain high nervous and psychological loads.

During long-distance voyages the most favorable situation for the comprehensive training of sailors takes shape. But this potential is realized only when the training programs for the voyage are worked out with full exertion of effort, under conditions that approximate those of battle. Conventionality and oversimplification are intolerable here.

The struggle for damage control, for example, is assigned an important role in the training. It permits the necessary habits of skillful actions under battle conditions or where there is emergency damage to be acquired. Skillful organization of the damage-control effort teaches personnel decisiveness and boldness. The modern level of development of the training aids base permits sailors to be trained more effectively.

Here is how a practical training session on a submarine was organized. The ship received serious "damage" and began to lose depth. The commander made the decision to evacuate personnel from the sinking ship through the bow compartment's torpedo equipment. Supervision of the rescue work was vested in the submarine's experienced officer-in-charge of the engineering department, Engr-Capt 2d Rank A. Belov.

Sr Lt N. Tylik was the first to squeeze into the torpedo-tube equipment. The wet suit impeded his movement. For it was necessary to crawl several meters, pushing

ahead of him a buoy and cable reel with buoy lines over which the submariners will be raised to the surface. Other submariners squeezed into the torpedo apparatus after Sr Lt Tylik. After them the rear cover was battened down tightly. Water quickly filled the tube, pressing on the diving suits. The pressure was equalized with the outside pressure. The buoy, reel and line were sent to the surface through the open fore cover. Maintaining the regime, the submariners rose upward. The exercise was completed successfully.

The engineering department of this ship bears the title "excellent," and it has been announced as best in the fleet in the training of personnel in the fight for damage control.

Right now, on the eve of Navy Day, the fleet's personnel strives to use efficiently every mile of the cruise to improve combat training, it evaluates the final result exactly, from the standpoint of real battle, and it successfully carries out the commitments adopted in honor of the 60th anniversary of the forming of the USSR.

The crew of the missile cruiser "Vladivostok" achieved stable results in training and service. A routine multimonth cruise that occurred in difficult weather was evaluated with high points. During the voyage the number of officers authorized to perform under-way watch independently doubled. The cruiser's multinationality crew is marked by strong states of solidarity, organization and discipline.

These days the results of combat training and socialist competition in honor of the holiday under the slogan, "The Soviet people's peaceful labor needs a reliable defense," are being totaled up on the ship. These results are encouraging. The number of those who are excellent in combat and political training, of classified specialists, of masters of military affairs, and of "excellent" ships is growing. Many crews at sea are reporting successful fulfillment of combat-training tasks. It is already possible to name ships now that are achieving high results in training: they are the nuclear missile-armed submarine commanded by Vice-Adm O. Chefonov, the ASW cruiser "Moskva," the escort ship "R'yanyy," and others.

Soviet sailors are fiery patriots of the Soviet motherland, who are worthy successors to the glorious revolutionary and battle traditions of older generations. Armed with 26th Party Congress decisions, they, like all our warriors, are always ready to come with honor to the defense of the motherland's national interests.

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NAVAL FORCES

POLITICAL OFFICER ON NUCLEAR MISSILE SUBMARINE KEEPS BUSY AT SEA

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 13, Jul 82 (signed to press 14 Jun 82) p 7

[Article by Capt-Lt N. Dolmatov: "The Desired Moment of Victory"]

[Text] For two days the people aboard the submarine slept with one eye open. Especially since the moment when the preparation was explained. Everyone was awaiting the commands.

Deputy commander of the ship for political affairs Capt 3d Rank Anatoliy Yakushev returned from the headquarters and, pushing his way through to the center and unbuttoning his greatcoat, said:

"The departure will be at night."

"That's a minor thing," smiled the watch mechanical engineer, settling down into a comfortable armchair, almost like an airplane seat.

"You have no time to be bored, Nikolay Ivanovich?" the zampolit [deputy commander for political affairs] asked the mechanical engineer.

"You guessed it," answered the officer, "the people are in place, and the boat, as they say, has its steam up...."

"That's good," said the zampolit, summing it up.

He is accustomed to trusting people and they, in turn, trust him. Yakushev is the senior of many in the crew and he has a sound record of service on submarines. This record was interrupted only once--for study at an academy.

Political work is a hereditary job for Anatoliy Yakushev. Although his father, Makar Ivanovich, had not been specially trained for that job. The civil war was going on, and the communists did not put questions when giving appointments to leading personnel.

The long road of the war, from Smolensk to liberated Prague, showed that Communist Yakushev was always at his place. The motherland awarded six combat orders to Lt Col Yakushev because he could, by personal example, rouse the infantrymen to the attack, conserve their skills, and bring the party's word in easily understood fashion to the consciousness of each warrior.

...We leave at night. Above is a low starry sky. The lines-handling crew ascends into the conning-tower sail, battening down the door after them.

I understand that Yakushev is not in the mood for poetry. The intercom briefing (there is a tradition that it be held in the first hour of the voyage), the issuance of combat leaflets, organization of the competition among watch sections (commitments had been adopted--the work to fulfill them goes on), the forthcoming joint session of the party bureau and the Komsomol committee (according to plan), the celebration soon of name days (there will be three of them during the voyage) and tens of other concerns lie on the zampolit's shoulders. And all this is party political work. In accordance with Navy Regulations, it should be performed more actively the more complicated and strenuous the situation that takes shape.

The commander "paints" the situation.

We should, observing secrecy of cruising, arrive full steam at a prescribed sector, through which, according to reconnaissance data, the course of a detachment of "enemy" ships will pass, detect it and destroy the main target. The missile blow should be unexpected and irresistible.

The task has been set, and it must be carried out. At all costs! The training year is in full swing, and victory in the competition goes, as is well known, to the one who skillfully brings together his knowledge, strength, skill, courage and will.

It is not the first time the crew has taken such tests. And its biography is enviable. The boat has been "excellent" for 6 years, and 72 percent of the submariners are masters of military affairs and first or second class specialists. The ship has been awarded an Honorary Lenin Certificate. The crew was the initiator of socialist competition within the chast' [unit].

The credits and titles provoke respect. But the demand for them also is special. This is understood in the collective.

We are proceeding full speed. BCh-5 [department No 5] provides it--the ship's best subunit. In the compartment I see the pennant, "To the Winners of the Socialist Competition."

"We earned it during a long-distance voyage," says Seagoing Warrant Officer I. Ryaguzov, "and we shall hold on to it."

Not only are the words of the team leader, who is a master of military affairs, filled with pride, but I sense in them the faith of a communist in the people who have won both this pennant and their fame.

I was told about the two Aleksandrs--Sinichkin and Rudakov. In accordance with the scenario, the distilling plant installation had stopped working. Apparently it was possible to get along without it--the cruise was short and there were matters still more important for them to take care of. But the two namesakes did not sit by. They coped with the basic work, they undertook repair of the unit, and they started it up.

One can count on such people.

Or, for example, take the officer in charge of a department, Nikolay Ivanovich Gontsaruk. From childhood he had "longed" for the sea. In the village of Zarozhane of Khotinskiy Rayon, of Chernovits Oblast, the Gontsaruks had previously been known as expert harness makers, both the grandfather and the father sewed outstanding horse harnesses. And now the son is a naval sailor.

"An excellent result for the missile firing! The Northern Fleet sailors behaved during the exercise as they would in battle!" says the battle leaflet, as if it were a frontline dispatch. However, for all its briefness, it is completely substantiated, you involuntarily sense the experienced hand of an editor who never forgets to remind one that the missile is a weapon of collectives.

Victory in this battle was engendered by the efforts of the whole crew. Separated from each other by the strong bulkhead walls, the people nevertheless perceived the tense rhythm at which the central command post operated, from which invisible strands of information flowed about the surface and subsurface situation and the status of the equipment and weaponry. Checked with the readings of the most clever computers and instruments, multiplied by the skill and experience of the ship's combat team, it was the information that was the basis for the future attack. Tens of times attacks had been "played" in the ringing silence of training simulators, but each time it is new. Certainly, this is a situation that approaches combat to the maximum.

I sensed it while I was at the central control post. And although the ship continued its motion, it seemed that it had been suspended in time and space.

"Five minutes before launch." The executive officer's voice is stern but calm.

The reports are brief and clear. The orders are clipped and easy to understand.

"Ten seconds to launch...five, four, three, two...launch!"

The rocket went beyond the horizon, over the ocean's vastness. We did not see it reaching for the target, but we had felt its menacing breath.

BCh-2 officer-in-charge Capt-Lt Viktor Gribanov fills out the watch report. This was his first independent missile firing in his new post. Gribanov is 27 years old. In school he followed his brother's advice. He finished with excellence. He is a communist. He named the firstling in honor of his brother--Sladka.

"What do you think, did it hit?" I asked Gribanov.

"I am convinced it did," he says. Zampolit Yakushev, standing alongside, silently nods his head in agreement.

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NAVAL FORCES

TRAINING ABOARD ESCORT SHIP IN CASPIAN SEA DESCRIBED

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 13, Jul 82 (signed to press 14 Jun 82) pp 11-15

[Article by Lt Col V. Shurygin and Kurashov (photographs [not reproduced]): "An On-Time Sailing"]

[Text] This does not happen often....Right at the time that Vice-Adm Gamid Gabibovich Kasumbekov, Commander-in-Chief of the Red Banner Caspian Flotilla, was conversing with us, a detachment of ships departed for sea, for an exercise. And, naturally, as interesting and as friendly as the conversation in the commander-in-chief's office may have been, we fidgeted on the comfortable chairs, and our heads turned involuntarily in the direction of the sea, which looked as if it filled one-third of the headquarters' high windows.

Somewhere in that immense and restless space, the ships and people that we needed so much, for a meeting with whom we had rushed 2,000 kilometers, had sailed, going far from the base, from the coast. The commander-in-chief understood our situation. His stern face lit up and his eyes brightened in youthful fashion when he asked:

"What do you want at sea?"

We answered, not entirely according to regulations: one can only dream about it, to get at once from an airplane to a ship! The commander-in-chief pressed one of the keys on the automated telephone control panel and said to someone who had responded to his signal:

"A launch, at once, to go to sea. To bring correspondents of the journal to the escort ship 'Sovetskiy Azerbaydzhan'!"

And now he said, in farewell:

"I wish you success!"

"He who considers the Caspian a calm sea is mistaken. The cause of the error is simple: it is an interior sea, they say--a lake....But violent storms occur here. It becomes like the ocean....And the winds--good luck...."

Capt 1st Rank Vladimir Vasil'yevich Ryabukha, strong and thickset, with a face stern and authoritative, talks as if he is not addressing anyone. So he is thinking out loud. Despite the fairly strong weather, the furnacelike wind.

Ryabukha, not wearing his high-collared jacket, is dressed in a cream-colored jacket. He stands, leaning his elbows on the rail post of the navigation bridge....

"The sea is always interesting. A sea of 50 names. The ancient Assyrians called it the Eastern Sea, and people who lived far to the east called it the Western Sea. The ancient Persians called it the Girkan or Persian Sea. And it was something else in Turkmen, Khazar, Avar, Baku and Apsheron....In Russian chronicles this sea was known as the Khvalynskoye Sea. However, of all the names that have been preserved, one has become fixed, which comes from an ancient tribe of Caspian peoples--the Kapiyskoye, who once lived somewhere on the southwestern shore. And so now we call it the Caspian. It is the Caspia....We are right now passing a rather complicated area. And the fog is a nuisance...."

In a graphic example of the words of the captain 1st rank about the complicated navigating region, out of the fog, on the port side, tall iron supports appear and are distinctly traced, and on them is an iron platform with an oil-well derrick. Just a little farther and there are still more and more of them....Yes, it is very easy to brazen one's way into this iron fence. Bring the ship a little more to the left....But the ship goes as it must, on a strict course. The watch crew brings it into the open sea on a fairly smart course, with such astonishing dexterity (you do not choose any other word!). But in essence, there is nothing to be surprised about. The officers, petty officers and seamen of the Caspian Flotilla's flagship simply know the cruising area and their nautical business excellently. We have already begun an "acquaintanceship in the matter" with the crew of the "Sovetskiy Azerbaydzhan."

The ship's captain, Capt 3d Rank Viktor Grigor'yevich Prokhorov, a calm man of few words, is constantly at the primary command station. Prokhorov is a Siberian. He is an alumnus of the Pacific Ocean Higher Naval School, which is well known for its seamen and line officers....He served in the Black Sea Fleet--also on escort ships. Prokhorov has been commanding the SKR [escort ship] "Sovetskiy Azerbaydzhan" for 2 years.

Lt Viktor Grigor'yevich Solodukhin is the watch officer. He is, in effect, three persons on this voyage, he has three posts. He is VRIO [Acting] Executive Officer, officer in charge of his own department, No 2 (which, in translation from naval to everyday language, means officer-in-charge of all the ship's artillery and antiaircraft guns), and secretary of the ship's party bureau. In the navigator's room, Lt Boris Borisovich Sisenko is bent over a chart. He has much work to do right now. He has a direct line with the watch crew of the GKP [primary command station]--he reports about forthcoming turns and receives reports about navigational hazards and passing ships that appear within the ship's radar coverage.... Navigator Sisenko should, as rapidly as possible, compute, compare and issue to the GKP data on whether a passing ship poses a hazard and which course will break away from it most easily....

Together with Lt Sisenko, his subordinate--the ship's best helmsman, PO 1st Class Oleg Denisov--stands under-way watch (but in the pilot house). He is a candidate for party membership. Prior to serving in the flotilla, Oleg lived in Volgograd, worked as a helmsman and engine mechanic on the dry bulk carrier "Volga-Don." So it is that he is accustomed to the helmsman's specialty--it is native to him, and habits of the past are advantageous. Oleg Denisov became a specialist 1st class in 1½ years of service.

And everyone who comes in contact with the work and service of BCh-1, which is under Lt Sisenko, has to use two words very often--"first" and "best." The department has been rated "excellent" for 2 years now. It is in first place on the ship for summer and winter results of the past year. Lt Sisenko himself is the flotilla's best navigator. His successes are considerable when one realizes that Sisenko finished higher naval school only about 2 years ago. And there is still another characteristic that one can state with confidence--the firm guarantee of the successes of BCh-1's sailors--three-fourths of its personnel are communists.

...The triangular pennant for "Best Department of the Ship" rocks slightly in the cabin. It is not so simple to retain it.

Department No 2--the main rival in the competition--firmly intends to take this pennant from the navigation house and transfer it to its own quarters, to the hot interior of the engine room. This is difficult, but it is entirely possible, because the sailors there are well matched with today's leaders.

Back at the beginning of the voyage we asked Capt 1st Rank Ryabukha what tasks the ships would work out at sea, particularly the SKR "Sovetskiy Azerbaydzhani." There were more than enough tasks for the hours planned. The basic ones were: the campaign for damage control, combat firings at a controlled target, and minelaying.

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At night the signalmen who were on the ship's bridge reported excellent visibility. Then on the ship itself visibility was almost zero. Acrid smoke covered the deck and filled the corridors and service compartments.....

The SKR's crew had already spent some time dealing with a simulated enemy, with flame and water.

Air raids followed, one after another, and, quick as lightning, the antiaircraftmen reacted to the danger from the sky, but the ship still received "heavy damage." In battle, as in boxing, one must be able not only to deliver but also to withstand blows.

Fires "broke out" on a tank and in the poop. They were extinguished, but, according to the exercise scenario, flames burst out in a stern bunk room and in the after space. Flooding of one of the artillery ammunition rooms was simulated.... The ship was almost dead in the water....

It was then that we also heard it--"defense line"--which previously seemed to us to be particularly a ground-forces military expression.

On the "damaged" ship the defense line passed through one of the stern compartments, where the sailors of Department No 5 were holding it. In quite dense smoke we stood in an aft corridor, without having decided whether to descend along the ladder below, from which words of command and sailors' voices were heard. We knew well the ship's rule: each superfluous man in a compartment that is trying to control damage, if he has not been trained for quick and precise action, if he is only a spectator, is also a sort of interference.

Such persons should not be in the compartment.

"Watch out for yourself!" from the upper deck, from a door opening, there appeared at first a heavy rectangular beam, and only then did the sailor who was grasping its middle appear. The excited young lad in work clothes, his face turned red, shouted below: "Bodrichenko, hold it!"--and, after transferring the beam, whirled away, apparently for the next one. From below the engines droned, and a canvas hose tensed and became like a pipeline made of iron....

The ship's intercom sounded: "Officer-in-charge of the aft damage-control party, report the situation!" The report was not comforting, as before: "We are holding the line of defense in bunkroom No 5. We still have not managed to cope with the fire in the tiller compartment...."

Under the terms of the exercise, one of the ships located in the area was to come to the aid of our ship, which "had received heavy damage." And the ship arrived. It was the SKR "Sovetskiy Turkmenistan." There was something bleak, and it also touched the soul, in the arrival of the ship and in its alongside mooring.

A laconic exchange of information by the ships' captains, and then streams of water were playing on the stern. A damage-control party--Capt Lt Avetisyan, PO's and Smn M. Khantov, Z. Malikov, V. Zhosan, B. Gvozdev and D. Meniyev--transferred to our "damaged" ship. From these moments, the ships began jointly to wage the struggle for damage control. The two ships' captains, Capt 3d Rank V. Prokhorov and Capt Lt M. Badenkov, stood opposite each other in the signalmen's nests. They acted mutually and made decisions jointly. One of the decisions was to take the "damaged" ship under tow....In just a moment commands sounded for execution of the maneuver, but Capt 2d Rank Yevgeniy Mikhaylovich Makarov, who had been supervising the exercise, put monitoring questions first to one, then to the other ship captain, and explained a kind of general error in the forthcoming work. Makarov then explained how to tow correctly under the given circumstances, and the ships' captains received a completely real benefit from his surprise interference. Work with the steel tow is not at all like that with a capron tow....There's a science to a long life for a leader. Makarov is an experienced officer. He has served more than 10 years in the Caspian Flotilla, and before that he had been on hunter-killers and on ASW ships, and he had been an exec, and a commander. He had something to tell the young. But before the "Sovetskiy Turkmenistan" ran ahead to take our ship under tow, it had to take some "injured" aboard. The sailors to whom that role fell were quite serious and managed to play the role skillfully--bandaged and patient, they lay on stretchers and trusted themselves completely to the strong arms of their comrades, who transferred the "injured" from one ship to the other. Where had I seen such a picture? I remembered! In the personal archive of retired Vice-Adm Sergey Stepanovich Vorkov, who commanded the minelaying destroyer "Soobrazitel'nyy" during the war years. Yes, it had the unique complete fortitude and dramatism of the photograph. In the photograph it was exactly the same--two ships side by side, standing in the open sea--the minelaying destroyer "Soobrazitel'nyy" and the leader "Tashkent." The injured were being transferred from the leader to the destroyer....

At the end of 1942 the Hitlerites had decided to sink at all costs the "blue cruiser" (that was what they called the elusive high-speed ship that had been making daring runs to the besieged Sevastopol and return to the mainland, to Novorossiysk). On one trip the "Tashkent," returning from Sevastopol, took on board 2,000 wounded fighters and leaders, as well as women and children who were being evacuated from Sevastopol.

"Junkers" that had attacked the ship for several hours continuously dropped tens of bombs at it, two of which fell right alongside and inflicted heavy damage on the ship. After it sprang a bad leak, the ship took on about 1,000 tons of water, and, actually, with each passing mile, the bow was being slowly submerged in the water, it was slowly sinking....Our aircraft that flew to its aid chased the "Junkers" away, but the "Tashkent" itself would have hardly reached Novorossiysk had not the minelaying destroyer "Soobrazitel'nyy" come to its aid. It not only took on about 2,000 wounded, but it also helped its brothers in arms to deal with the water and to reach base.

...And now, 40 years later, two combat ships of the Caspian Flotilla, using the experience of the Black Sea sailors, learned to act together under difficult conditions. That night many distinguished themselves. Most of all those subordinate to officer-in-charge of Department No 5, Capt Lt Ya. Lapidus: Seagoing Warrant Officer V. Ryabinchenko, PO 1st Class O. Vashchuk and Sr Smn B. Dambayev, N. Astaf'yev, S. Kozhakin, I. Bodrichenko, S. Bogdanov and V. Titov....

The best can also be said about Capt-Lt Avetisyan's damage-control group.

It is surprising how much is concealed at times behind just one case, behind just one family name! Right after the exercise, the deputy commander for political affairs of the ship, Lt Bulat Kaskenovich Sembinov, recommended to us that we get acquainted with the guide of the Komsomol members of Department No 5, Oleg Vashchuk. PO 1st Class Vashchuk's division had distinguished itself in the struggle with the fire--it had successfully eliminated two flame centers....

Oleg is 20 years old. He is serving his third year in the Red Banner Caspian Flotilla. Prior to his service he lived and worked in the city of Kherson and had the specialty of ship electrical mechanic. This specialty made Oleg suitable for the ship in the best possible way. He not only assimilated complex management himself, but he also transmitted his knowledge to his comrades. Today all his subordinates--Sr Smn Nikolay Astaf'yev, Sergey Kozhakin and Bayan Dambayev--are first-class specialists. There is one interesting detail--precisely on the eve of the exercises the electrician's division successfully fulfilled its commitments in honor of the 19th Komsomol Congress--and became completely first-class.

Recall the friendly Department No 1 (under Lt Sisenko) and the pennant in the navigator's room....It would seem that ship leadership in the socialist competition is completely within the powers of such lads as those of the division under Vashchuk (a candidate for membership in the CPSU, a delegate to the Azerbaijan Komsomol Congress, and Komsomol guide of Department No 5).

We sincerely wished the seamen successes. Whoever will win--the wheelhouse or the ship's electricians, the artillerymen or the turbine tenders, the winner in any case will be the whole crew of the escort ship, which is a leader in the flotilla. The more such first-class groups, divisions and departments on a ship, the more confidently and precisely does the crew perform the most difficult mission.

Servicemen of 18 nationalities serve on the SKR "Sovetskiy Azerbaydzhan." The Azerbaijan Komsomol sent seven of its best Komsomol members, particularly the Plant imeni Leytenant Shmidt. There are also Russians, Ukrainians, Kazakhs and Turkmen on the crew....Even the very names of the two cooperating ships on the night exercise--the "Sovetskiy Azerbaydzhan" and "Sovetskaya Turkmenistan"--

constitute a symbol of the inviolable friendship of the peoples of the USSR, the 60th anniversary of the forming of which our country is observing this year.

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...Yes, our ship did not burn and it did not sink. And not only because the flame did not rage at its full brightness and the water did not burst "through the torn edges of the hole...."

During the long hours of the sleepless exercise the sailors had had to act with full exertion of effort. This was also a night exercise, which undoubtedly yielded very much to everyone--from the ship's captain to the seaman who had just begun his service.

With the help of its naval colleague, the SKR "Sovetskiy Turkmenistan," our ship had not only stood its ground, but even on the next night it successfully carried out artillery and antiaircraft firings. The first at a controlled target, the second at a fast-flying aerial target.

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The firings took place successfully. The central figure on the ship was its captain, Capt 3d Rank Viktor Grigor'yevich Prokhorov. The presence on board of a flag officer of the flotilla detachment did not in the least deter him, and during the decisive moments the ship's captain showed initiative and firmness.

Our Capt 1st Rank Ryabukha already well-known to us, supervised the firing by the detachment of ships. He saw to it strictly that each ship would be able to complete a firing at the moving target. And that same Vladimir Vasil'yevich Ryabukha, who strove to inflict maximum destruction on the boat target, was concerned after completion of the firing about finding the boat most rapidly in the evening dusk.

In our memory, in our notepad writings, and on the photographic film, there still remained many skillful sailors whom we should talk about individually and unhurriedly.

The antiaircraft team of Omsk Oblast men is recalled. There were four antiaircraft sailors on it, natives of Omsk Oblast. They had come to the flotilla on Komsomol travel authorizations, and their zeal to serve and their craving for knowledge was such that they "squeezed" the period of their joint coordination and training almost by a factor of four. Their team today is the leading one on the ship, and it is not surprising that during firings they achieved hits from the first turns. Let the Omskers be proud of the young ones, let the defense society that made its contribution to their hardening and training be proud of them, and for this purpose we must name them: PO 2d Class Aleksandr Yefimenko and Sr Smn Yuriy Novikov, Vladimir Yadryshnikov and Yuriy Vayskain.

I would like to tell the readers about the night minelaying, which the flotilla's minelayers call, "The dark night and the gloomy morning."

Our ship left for the prescribed area without a single light, in pitch darkness. They set out underwater mines. And a "gloomy morning" would be in store for the "enemy" if he butted into this sector.

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Before we left for sea we were wished success....Was it successful? Undoubtedly it was. We saw the restless and matchless sea. We saw that the alert, well-trained Caspian sailors know how to sail ships with precision, fire accurately at surface, shore and aerial targets and how to plant and sweep mines....And still be on good terms and serve excellently.

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LOGISTICAL SERVICES AND SPECIAL TROOPS

OFFICER'S POOR RELATIONS WITH SUBORDINATES EXAMINED

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 7, Jul 82 (signed to press 22 Jun 82) p 25

[Article by Yu. Konorov: "And People Complain"]

[Text] According to production indices, the military construction detachment in which officer Nikolay Ivanovich Protashchuk serves is considered one of the most satisfactory in the UNR [work supervisor's section]. The leaders of the detachment--one third of them are warrant officers [praporshchik]--are concerned not only about accomplishment of the plan, but also about the living conditions of the people and their rest. The personnel are in comfortable and clean barracks, there is a color television set in each company, and there are curtains and flowers in the windows.

But people complain. What don't they like? In a letter to the editors, Warrant Officer Yu. Khol'nov gives a laconic answer--the rudeness of officer Protashchuk.

Actually, all those with whom we had the occasion to meet and talk declare with one voice that the abnormal climate in the collective is connected primarily with the reluctance of Nikolay Ivanovich to deal with people equally, sensitively, and tactfully. From the rich arsenal of means for influence, he only gives preference to administrative means, displaying extreme strictness on the slightest occasion. But you see, it is clearly stated in the Disciplinary Regulation: "The following are taken into consideration in determining the type and measures of punishment: the nature of the delinquency, the circumstances under which it was accomplished, the former behavior of the guilty one, and his length of service and degree of knowledge of service procedures." Here, there can be no "belittling of the personal dignity of the subordinate and the allowance of rudeness." But it was as if the requirements of the regulation were not written for him.

Senior Warrant Officer P. Kukhta received uniforms for the personnel. But, as luck would have it, on that day there were no insignia in the warehouse. At a conference, the warrant officer had begun to explain the situation which had developed, but the officer interrupted him with a shout:

""I'll tie you to the flagpole, you'll know that you're getting yours!"

And he immediately placed him under arrest with three days detention in the guard-house.

Nikolay Ivanovich himself sees nothing blameworthy in such treatment of people. He even has his own justification:

"I believe that the more strictly and sharply you talk to a person, the better he will understand and the longer he will remember."

Above, we presented an example of how this appears in practice. We will only add that neither a conference nor the forming up of the men for work are accomplished without rude expressions and insulting gestures directed at subordinates. Up to now, we cannot forget the humiliation which Warrant Officer M. Solnyshkin experienced when he turned to Nikolay Ivanovich for professional advice. At that time, his platoon worked on a difficult sector: swampy terrain, poor access roads. A shortage of qualified specialists was also acutely felt. It would appear that it was necessary to help the warrant officer to organize the work, allocate additional resources, and encourage him. But this did not occur here! The officer has his own criteria for evaluating a person: once you underaccomplished the plan even a little, it means you are "just so-so," and buckets of coarseness are poured out on the head of the person who came for help. And later, at the formation, in front of everyone he ridiculed the warrant officer in a humiliating manner for his inability to "provide a plan."

Evidently, this is why the warrant officers avoid their chief.

Nikolay Ivanovich likes to repeat for all to hear: "I'm not keeping anyone here." He says that all those who are dissatisfied can leave, and good riddance. To the correspondent's question of how this agrees with the requirement of the USSR minister of defense to achieve a sharp reduction in the release of warrant officers [praporshchik and michman] to the reserve after the first five years of service, he answered mysteriously, shrugging his shoulders:

"You cannot make an omelet without breaking the eggs."

The officer's inattentive attitude toward his subordinates leads to where they take offense, shut themselves up in their shell, and lose any initiative. In short, there is no joy among the winners of competition and they have no true satisfaction from the results of their labor.

Learning of the numerous complaints of the warrant officers subordinate to him, Nikolay Ivanovich answered:

"It is our humdrum life." He made a gesture similar to the way a pesky fly is brushed away. "And here...", a smooth gesture toward the challenge banners and cups standing in the office, "are our festivals. And if it weren't for me, nothing would stand here...."

Unquestionably, the contribution of officer Protashchuk to the production achievements of the military construction detachment is great. Nikolay Ivanovich is an effective, energetic leader who has many years of service and substantial professional experience behind him. He has a high opinion of himself--and not without grounds--and therefore is very touchy. If one of his superiors points out one or another shortcoming to him, Nikolay Ivanovich picks up a fountain pen:

"I'm ready to sign a request for release to the reserve at any minute."

They hastily calm him down, only gently rebuke him for his "stern temper," and take note of him with commendations and rewards. Of course! He is a valuable worker--everything is always in order with his plan, and the remainder will come out right.

Do the higher party organs know of communist Protashchuk's rudeness? Yes, they do. The secretary of the party committee, O. Krasnov, confirms that a talk about his tactless behavior took place at the party commission. But in general, says the secretary, this is not so terrible, all kinds of things will happen in the circle of one's people--they quarrel--they make up. It is important that they all accomplish the production plan together. Evidently, the communists of the directorate forgot that for our party an especially important and fundamental task is the striving to see that any activity is permeated with a sensitive attitude toward people and concern for their daily needs and requirements. Bureaucratism, callousness, and self-conceit, as the party teaches, cannot and must not have a place in our Soviet way of life.

It should be said that in the political department, too, bewitched by the detachment's favorable numerical indices they close their eyes to much of what was stated above.

Here it is appropriate to present the words of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev that work with people "must be conducted with the mind and tact. Even if a person made a mistake, no one has the right to insult him by shouting peremptorily. The habit of raising one's voice at people, even if not widespread but still retained by some, is deeply disgusting to me. Neither the administrative nor the party leader should forget that his subordinates are subordinates only in service; that they do not serve the director or the manager, but the cause of the party and the state. And in this relationship all are equal. Those who permit themselves to deviate from this truth which is firm for our system hopelessly compromise themselves and injure their authority.... In no way should the self-respect of people be wounded or their dignity humbled."

Very true words. In fact, is the contemporary leader whose work style insults and belittles people really conceivable?

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